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| Policy: | Welding | Reference: | WSES0066 |
| | | Review Date: | 01/2023 |

Purpose.

To ensure that all welding is completed safely and that all risks are satisfactorily controlled.

Scope.

This procedure applies to all SES Engineering (Newark) Ltd projects and employees carrying out the weld.

References.

- Management of Health & Safety at Work Regulations 1999.
- Health & Safety at Work Act 1974.
- Fire Safety in Construction Work.
- Hot Work Permit. (Ref: HWPSES0043)

Definition.

Welding

A fabrication process that joins materials, usually metals or thermoplastics, by using high heat to melt the parts together and allowing them to cool, causing fusion.

Procedure.

- Management will ensure a that a hot work permit is issued (Ref: HWPSES0043) and there is no risk to others. Adequate screening shall be provided around the work area, to avoid arc flashes to others.
- To ensure there is sufficient fire extinguishers in the location of the correct content and size.
- There shall sufficient firewatchers if this is required and established by a risk assessment. Firewatchers shall stay in the area for a further hour after works have completed, dependant upon the risk to flammable equipment in the area.
- All removable flammable substances and equipment shall be removed from the area before starting to weld.
- The safety of electrical welding is dependant upon a good return current. The earth lead should be connected to the component being welded.
- The safety of gas welding is dependant upon the gas supply. Bottles must be secured in a vertical position. Valves should be in sound mechanical order and fitted with flash back arrestors. All supply pipes must be in good order and not damaged. Pipes should not be secured with worm drive clips, but crimped clips.
- Only chipping hammers shall be used to removing weld slag.
- Oxygen shall never be used to blow away dust or to enrich the atmosphere in a confined space.
- Heat shall never be used in the vicinity of wheels fitted with pneumatic tyres.
- Never weld drums or tanks that have contained flammable liquids without firstly taking precautions to have them cleaned and made safe.
- Mobile generators/welding sets shall either be used in open-air conditions, or the exhausts shall be directed to the open air. Always be aware that exhaust fumes may affect people working at heights above the discharge.