Job site:	Date:
Foreman:	G.C

SMOHIT Safety SenseToolbox Talks for the Sheet Metal Industry

Burns

- A burn is an injury that results from contact with heat, chemicals, and electricity. Scalding liquids, steam, contact with hot objects, flames, flaming liquids and gases, and the sun causes thermal burns. Skin contact with chemicals can cause a limited skin reaction, an overall body reaction, or both. Electrical current and lightning may cause severe damage to the body.
- Burns vary in depth, size, and degree or severity:
 - First degree—the outer layer of skin is reddened and painful, and slight swelling is present. This type of burn will heal on its own.
 - Second degree—the outer and second layer of skin are damaged.
 The burned area is painful. Blisters may form. The area may have a wet, shiny appearance because of exposed tissue.
 - Third degree—all the layers of the skin are damaged and are charred black or brown or are dry and white. Muscle, tissue, and bone may be damaged. Pain may or may not be severe.
- To treat first- and second-degree burns:
 - Use cool-water compresses to lower the temperature of the burned area. Do not apply ice to any burn because it can cause tissue damage.
 - Gently blot the area dry and cover with a dry, sterile bandage. Do not use ointments, sprays, or butter on burned areas. This causes the heat to be trapped against the burn site, causing more pain.
 - Separate any burned areas that might come in contact with each other when bandaging, such as fingers, toes, ears and head, arms and the side of the body.
- For third degree burns, do not remove clothing near or on the site of the burn. Do not apply cold water or medication to the burn. Apply clean, dry cloth over the damaged area and get the victim to the hospital immediately.

Instructor Tips

- Refer to SMOHIT First Aid Booklet section on burns for more treatment information.
- Inform workers that if the burn area is located on an arm or leg to keep the limb elevated as much as possible.

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Reference: OSHA 29 CFR 1926.50