



# ALERT



## YELLOW ALERT

March 5, 2020

### FIRES AND FIRE WATCHES

Since the loss of USS MIAMI (SNN 755), the Navy averages one major fire per year during industrial availabilities. Hot work is the cause of 51% of Navy industrial fires. The fire watch is the first responder to contain these casualties.

#### Fire Extinguisher Inspection

1. Fire Watch Fire Extinguisher Daily Inspection. Due to the dynamic nature of the industrial environment at Puget Sound Naval Shipyard and Intermediate Maintenance Facility (PSNS & IMF) it is important for fire watches to inspect their fire extinguishers prior to use. Knowing the proper inspection is important so that a fire watch can identify issues with the fire extinguisher if they arise and turn them in for further inspection.
2. Good Condition.
  - a. No damage to hose or nozzle
  - b. Fully pressurized bottle
  - c. Tamper seals and pin in place
3. Ensure Monthly Inspections have been accomplished. Monthly inspections are thorough inspections conducted by trained Central Tool Shop (Shop 06) employees to determine if additional maintenance is required and to ensure that fire extinguishers are in good condition.

#### Fire Watch Responsibilities

1. Positioning.
  - a. Fire watches must be within 50 feet of all hot work operations. Additionally, the fire watch must have a view of all assigned hot work operations from a single fixed location.
  - b. The fire watch must have immediate access to the assigned hot work operations with no physical obstructions or barriers in the way that would prevent this.
  - c. The fire watch must not be assigned to more than four (4) hot workers at any given time.
2. Communication. Fire watches must have a means of communication with the entire hot work team (i.e., the hot worker(s) that the fire watch is assigned to and other fire watches).

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3. 30-Minute Cool Down. Fire watches are required to remain in the hot work area for at least 30 minutes after the completion of the hot work.
4. Fire Watch Badge. All PSNS & IMF fire watches must wear the Fire Watch Badge, to ensure other personnel do not interfere with or distract the fire watch from their duties.

Note: Other organizations (e.g., ship's force) use a red hard hat to indicate that an individual is performing the duties of a fire watch.

**Fire Watch Assignment**. It is the responsibility of the hot work supervisor to ensure that fire watches are posted when required. This assessment is based on the hazards present and the hot work team's ability to remove and protect combustibles.

#### **Fire Watch Priorities**

1. Protect the hot worker and project/facility against fire.
2. Stop hot work if there is a problem or emergency. The fire watch has the authority and responsibility to stop hot work.
3. Know the hot work site location (for 911), two escape routes (if possible), and the location of a phone or fire alarm.

If you have any questions regarding this Yellow Alert, please contact Mr. Odin Jacobovitch, at (360) 204-3961, or email [odin.jacobovitch@navy.mil](mailto:odin.jacobovitch@navy.mil), or Brady Seroshek, at (360) 979-3961, or email [brady.seroshek@navy.mil](mailto:brady.seroshek@navy.mil).



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**EMERGENCY PHONE NUMBERS – PSNS & IMF sites:**  
**Fire, Police, Spills:**  
**Bremerton - Land line 911 or (360) 476-3333**  
**Bangor - Land line 911 or (360) 396-4444**  
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