

Overview

A fire is one of the costliest accidents a business can have. Even more costly is the death and injury toll from fires and explosions. In one recent year, fires and explosions caused more than 5,000 injuries requiring time off from work, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

The Fire Prevention Plan

Your company has a written emergency action plan, and as part of that, a fire prevention plan. The reason these plans exist is to help keep workers safe.

You have the right to know about the possible fire hazards in your workplace. The company fire plan should, at a minimum, contain the following:



- A list of the major workplace fire hazards and their proper handling and storage procedures; potential ignition sources and their control procedures; and the type of fire protection equipment or systems which can control a fire involving them.
- Names or job titles of persons responsible for maintenance of equipment and systems installed to prevent or control ignitions or fires.
- Names or job titles of persons responsible for control of fuel source hazards.
- Housekeeping procedures to control accumulations of flammable and combustible waste materials and residues.
- Procedures for regular maintenance of safeguards installed on heat-producing equipment.

What must my employer do?

The employer is responsible for:

- Controlling accumulations of flammable and combustible materials through proper housekeeping.
- Reviewing the fire plan with each employee, and making a written copy available upon request.
- Reviewing with each employee those parts of the plan which the employee must know to protect the employee in the event of an emergency. This shall take place upon initial assignment.
- Properly maintaining equipment and systems installed on heat producing equipment to prevent fires.

For employers with 10 or more employees, the written fire prevention plan will be in writing and kept in the workplace and made available for employee review.

This document provides general information about a safety and health topic and is only intended for use in facilitating discussions with employees in safety meetings. It does not address all hazards, OSHA or local requirements related to the topic or accompanying photograph. This document cannot be relied on to determine whether a site specific situation meets all safety and health requirements. Assurance Safety Consulting is not responsible for any health and safety violation or injury at a job site.