



Safety Guidance for Bitumen Boilers

The Work Area

- 1 – Ensure that the boiler is sited in a clear and safe area away from distractions.
- 2 – Ensure that boiler has barriers around it to prevent unauthorised access.
- 3 – Site the boiler on level ground, ensuring that surface is non-combustible.
- 4 – Boiler should be stood in a spill tray with a greater capacity than that of the boiler.
- 5 – Always keep combustible items a safe distance from the boiler.
- 6 – Gas cylinders in use should be kept a minimum of 3 metres from the boiler, spare cylinders should be at least 6 metres from the boiler.
- 7 – You should always have 2 Dry Powder or Foam fire extinguishers within easy reach of the boiler in case of fire.

PPE / Safety

- 1 – ALWAYS wear appropriate PPE for the task. Goggles or full-face visor, safety boots and appropriate gloves should always be worn. Long work trousers and long sleeves should also be worn to avoid any splashes coming into contact with bare skin.
- 2 – The boiler should be approached from an up-wind direction to avoid inhalation of fumes.
- 3 – An appropriately trained first aider should always be on site.
- 4 – A container of cold water should be present for use only in event of a bitumen burn.

Using the Boiler

- 1 – Check condition of the boiler, burner hose and regulator prior to use, if any damage is evident, the equipment must not be used. Defect should be immediately reported to an appropriate supervisor.
- 2 – Check that all hose connections are tight prior to use.
- 3 – The burner should be removed from under the boiler prior to lighting and placed back underneath when lit.
- 4 – Keep the lid on the boiler as much as possible and take care to avoid splashing when adding more bitumen.

Please familiarise yourself with the equipment and carry out a site risk assessment prior to starting work

NEVER SMOKE WHEN USING OR NEAR GAS EQUIPMENT

NEVER LEAVE THE BOILER UNATTENDED WHEN LIT OR WHILST STILL HOT

Further guidance can be found at www.hse.gov.uk/construction

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