NZ Safety Alert



Fire in bin from cutting

A worker was cutting steel that was sticking out of a waste steel container, when the container suddenly caught fire. No one had checked the bin for flammable material before commencing the task. As there was no risk assessment conducted there were no controls in place in the event that a fire started.

It is important that appropriate and effective risk assessments are conducted for any non-standard task. Before commencing any job workers need to identify all potential hazards and ensure appropriate controls are in place.



You need to ensure that:

- Risk assessments are completed on all non-routine tasks to ensure that hazards are identified, risks assessed, and effective controls are put in place.
- Hot work procedures and/or risk assessments are understood by all workers and are adequately supervised, and tasks observed, to ensure risk controls are in place and are effective.
- All workers are trained, and regularly re-trained, in dealing with fires and other emergencies.

Let's work together to keep ourselves and our workers safe.

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