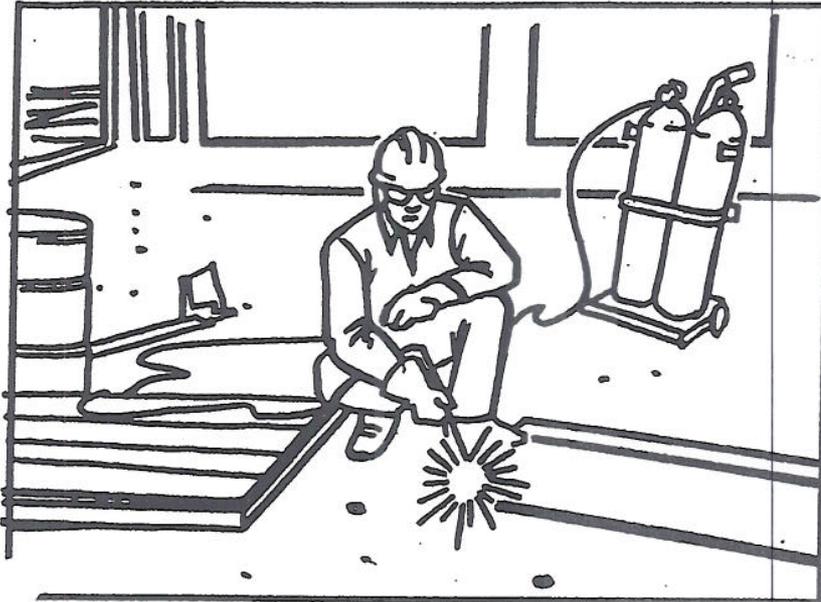


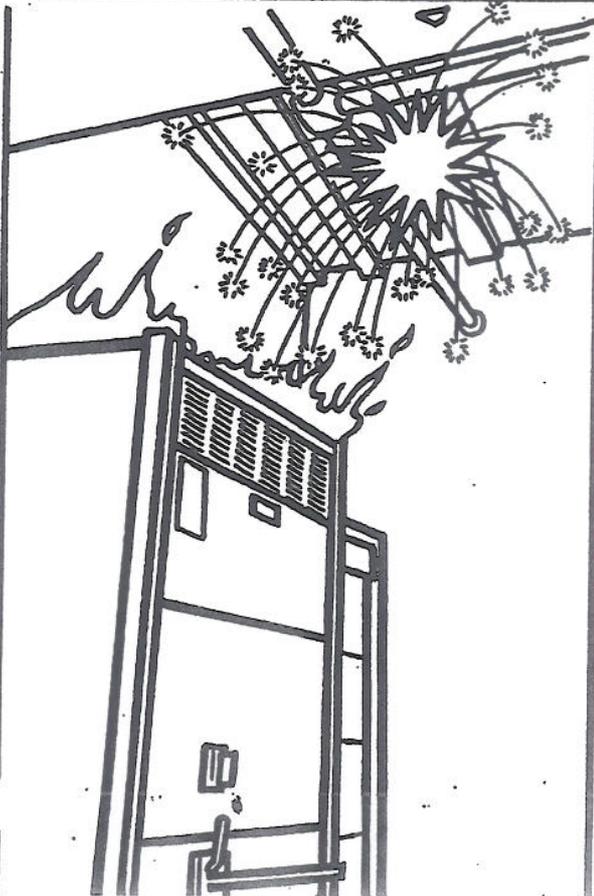
TOOLBOX TOPICS

CUTTING TORCH ACCIDENT



INCIDENT DESCRIPTION:

A fire occurred at the jobsite while trying to cut through a metal decking. A worker was using a cutting torch to burn through the floor just prior to the fire breaking out. The cause of the fire was the molten metal dripping down onto the plastic covered electrical equipment below. An inexperienced worker was in charge and did not consider what was going on below the floor where he was working. As a result, a fire almost destroyed some expensive electrical equipment.



RECOMMENDATION:

1. When undertaking any task, consider the whole scope of work not just what you are doing. One must consider the dangers of your task and how it will effect others working around you. An inexperienced worker was placed in charge of the task and never considered the molten drippings falling onto the equipment below.
2. Those with more experience should review the tasks of those with less experience to help train them.
3. Always keep a fire extinguisher in the immediate area when doing hot work (using a torch or while welding).