

**Mine Safety and Health Admin., Labor**

**§57.4561**

(b) The fuel line shall be—

(1) Capable of withstanding working pressures and stresses;

(2) Located to prevent damage; and

(3) Located in areas free of combustible materials or in areas where any exposed combustible materials are coated with one inch of shotcrete, one-half inch of gunite, or other non-combustible material with equivalent fire protection characteristics.

(c) Provisions shall be made for control or containment of the entire volume of the fuel line so that leakage will not create a fire hazard.

**§57.4530 Exits for surface buildings and structures.**

Surface buildings or structures in which persons work shall have a sufficient number of exits to permit prompt escape in case of fire.

**§57.4531 Surface flammable or combustible liquid storage buildings or rooms.**

(a) Surface storage buildings or storage rooms in which flammable or combustible liquids, including grease, are stored and that are within 100 feet of any person's work station shall be ventilated with a sufficient volume of air to prevent the accumulation of flammable vapors.

(b) In addition, the buildings or rooms shall be—

(1) Constructed to meet a fire resistance rating of at least one hour; or

(2) Equipped with an automatic fire suppression system; or

(3) Equipped with an early warning fire detection device that will alert any person who could be endangered by a fire, provided that no person's work station is in the building.

(c) Flammable or combustible liquids in use for day-to-day maintenance and operational activities are not considered in storage under this standard.

**§57.4532 Blacksmith shops.**

Blacksmith shops located on the surface shall be—

(a) At least 100 feet from fan installations used for intake air and mine openings;

(b) Equipped with exhaust vents over the forge and ventilated to prevent the

accumulation of the products of combustion; and

(c) Inspected for smoldering fires at the end of each shift.

**§57.4533 Mine opening vicinity.**

Surface buildings or other similar structures within 100 feet of mine openings used for intake air or within 100 feet of mine openings that are designated escapeways in exhaust air shall be—

(a) Constructed of noncombustible materials; or

(b) Constructed to meet a fire resistance rating of no less than one hour; or

(c) Provided with an automatic fire suppression system; or

(d) Covered on all combustible interior and exterior structural surfaces with noncombustible material or limited combustible material, such as five-eighth inch, type "X" gypsum wall-board.

**§57.4560 Mine entrances.**

For at least 200 feet inside the mine portal or collar timber used for ground support in intake openings and in exhaust openings that are designated as escapeways shall be—

(a) Provided with a fire suppression system, other than fire extinguishers and water hoses, capable of controlling a fire in its early stages; or

(b) Covered with shotcrete, gunite, or other material with equivalent fire protection characteristics; or

(c) Coated with fire-retardant paint or other material to reduce its flame spread rating to 25 or less and maintained in that condition.

[50 FR 4082, Jan. 29, 1985, as amended at 50 FR 20100, May 14, 1985]

**§57.4561 Stationary diesel equipment underground.**

Stationary diesel equipment underground shall be—

(a) Supported on a noncombustible base; and

(b) Provided with a thermal sensor that automatically stops the engine if overheating occurs.

## § 57.4600

### WELDING/CUTTING/COMPRESSED GASES

#### § 57.4600 Extinguishing equipment.

(a) When welding, cutting, soldering, thawing, or bending—

(1) With an electric arc or with an open flame where an electrically conductive extinguishing agent could create an electrical hazard, a multipurpose dry-chemical fire extinguisher or other extinguisher with at least a 2-A:10-B:C rating shall be at the worksite.

(2) With an open flame in an area where no electrical hazard exists, a multipurpose dry-chemical fire extinguisher or equivalent fire extinguishing equipment for the class of fire hazard present shall be at the worksite.

(b) Use of halogenated fire extinguishing agents to meet the requirements of this standard shall be limited to Halon 1211 (CBrClF<sub>2</sub>) and Halon 1301 (CBrF<sub>3</sub>). When these agents are used in confined or unventilated areas, precautions based on the manufacturer's use instructions shall be taken so that the gases produced by thermal decomposition of the agents are not inhaled.

#### § 57.4601 Oxygen cylinder storage.

Oxygen cylinders shall not be stored in rooms or areas used or designated for storage of flammable or combustible liquids, including grease.

#### § 57.4602 Gauges and regulators.

Gauges and regulators used with oxygen or acetylene cylinders shall be kept clean and free of oil and grease.

#### § 57.4603 Closure of valves.

To prevent accidental release of gases from hoses and torches attached to oxygen and acetylene cylinders or to manifold systems, cylinder or manifold system valves shall be closed when—

- (a) The cylinders are moved;
- (b) The torch and hoses are left unattended; or
- (c) The task or series of tasks is completed.

#### § 57.4604 Preparation of pipelines or containers.

Before welding, cutting, or applying heat with an open flame to pipelines or containers that have contained flammable or combustible liquids, flam-

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mable gases, or explosive solids, the pipelines or containers shall be—

(a) Drained, ventilated, and thoroughly cleaned of any residue;

(b) Vented to prevent pressure build-up during the application of heat; and

(c)(1) Filled with an inert gas or water, where compatible; or

(2) Determined to be free of flammable gases by a flammable gas detection device prior to and at frequent intervals during the application of heat.

#### § 57.4660 Work in shafts, raises, or winzes and other activities involving hazard areas.

During performance of an activity underground described in Table C–2 or when falling sparks or hot metal from work performed in a shaft, raise, or winze could pose a fire hazard—

(a) A multipurpose dry-chemical fire extinguisher shall be at the worksite to supplement the fire extinguishing equipment required by § 57.4600; and

(b) At least one of the following actions shall be taken:

(1) Wet down the area before and after the operation, taking precaution against any hazard of electrical shock.

(2) Isolate any combustible material with noncombustible material.

(3) Shield the activity so that hot metal and sparks cannot cause a fire.

(4) Provide a second person to watch for and extinguish any fire.

TABLE C–2

Activity	Distance	Fire hazard
Welding or cutting with an electric arc or open flame		More than 1 gallon of combustible liquid, unless in a closed, metal container.
Using an open flame to bend or heat materials	Within 35 feet of—	More than 50 pounds of non-fire-retardant wood.
Thawing pipes electrically, except with heat tape		More than 10 pounds of combustible plastics.
Soldering or thawing with an open flame	Within 10 feet of—	Materials in a shaft, raise, or winze that could be ignited by hot metal or sparks.

(5) Cover or bulkhead the opening immediately below and adjacent to the activity with noncombustible material to prevent sparks or hot metal from falling down the shaft, raise, or winze. This alternative applies only to activities involving a shaft, raise, or winze.