

# Arc Welding

## Safety Meeting Packet

### Protect Your Workforce



Arc welding is a job duty that poses many risks to workers. This is increased further for those workers who weld on a regular basis. Because of the increased danger of these types of jobs, employers must take extra precautions when they have employees who are at an increased risk for accidents or injuries.

### Personal Protective Equipment

Extreme health issues can arise when the necessary precautions are not followed. Wearing the proper personal protective equipment is necessary for employees to weld safely. Employers should consider posting an equipment checklist for all employees to reference prior to starting work:

- Safety glasses or goggles, preferably with side protection, must be worn at all times. Welding emits actinic ultraviolet radiation (UVR) that can damage or burn the eyes and skin.
- A welding helmet, that covers the whole head, must also be worn to protect the welder from flying debris and sparks. The face shield should include a tinted shade. When choosing a face shield, headgear, or eyewear, they should meet the ANSI (American National Standards Institute) regulations.
- Heavy duty leather gloves, hats, aprons, jackets, and pants must be worn when welding. Employees should avoid wearing synthetic material under protective layers, as this material can melt easily and burn the wearer.
- Steel-toed boots are recommended to help protect against falling debris.
- Protective ear plugs should be worn to help prevent deafness, as arc welding can emit damaging sounds that can result in hearing loss.



The equipment checklist should also include these statements:

- All PPE should be checked before and after use to ensure that no damages are sustained and that the equipment is in good working condition. Anybody who comes into a direct line of sight to any welding operations can receive harmful injuries, even from a reasonable distance. Protective eyewear should be provided to anybody who is at risk. Being in direct line of sight should be prevented.
- All rings, earrings, and other jewelry should be removed during welding operations.

### Maintaining Safe Operations

Making adjustments to create a safe workplace can reduce the number of welding accidents that occur. The recommended adjustments are:

- Inspect welding materials and instruments for any faults or damages before use.
- Ensure that all combustible and flammable items a safe distance away from operations. This is generally a minimum of 35 feet.
- Ergonomics should be considered when reviewing welding operations. Holding and sustaining forceful exertion, or being forced to sit/stand in awkward positions for extended periods of time, can be bad for a worker's health.
- Proper air ventilation is important as it ensures that employees don't inhale harmful fumes. If a ventilation system is not currently used to redirect fumes, respiratory protection should be provided to protect employees.



For more information concerning Arc Welding, consult the following OSHA standards:

- 29 CFR 1910.254: Arc welding and cutting
- 29 CFR Subpart I: Personal Protective Equipment



# Arc Welding Safety Meeting Attendance Acknowledgement

Company Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Department / Division \_\_\_\_\_  
 Meeting Date & Time \_\_\_\_\_  AM  PM  
 Meeting Location \_\_\_\_\_  
 Name & Title of Individual Conducting Meeting \_\_\_\_\_

### Key Meeting Discussion Points / Important Reminders:

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

### Internal Procedures Reviewed:

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

**By signing this document, you confirm your attendance at the meeting and acknowledge the issues addressed above!**

Employees in Attendance		
(Print): _____	(Print): _____	(Print): _____
(Sign): _____	(Sign): _____	(Sign): _____
(Print): _____	(Print): _____	(Print): _____
(Sign): _____	(Sign): _____	(Sign): _____
(Print): _____	(Print): _____	(Print): _____
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(Sign): _____	(Sign): _____	(Sign): _____
(Print): _____	(Print): _____	(Print): _____
(Sign): _____	(Sign): _____	(Sign): _____

Employees not present: \_\_\_\_\_

Suggestions/Recommendations to improve workplace safety and health: \_\_\_\_\_

Actions Taken: \_\_\_\_\_

Manager/Supervisor: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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**Disclaimer:**

The information provided above was assembled using multiple resources. However, these materials do not contain ALL the information available regarding the required safety standards under local, provincial, state, or federal law for your industry.

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