

# SCP TRIBUNE

## Major Changes to Hazard Communication Standard

*The Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labeling of Chemicals*



**Signal Word:**  
DANGER

**Hazard Statements:**

- May cause fire or explosion; strong oxidizer
- Causes severe skin burns and eye damage

What is the Globally Harmonized System? GHS is an international approach to hazard communication, providing unified criteria for classification of chemical hazards and a standardized approach to label elements and MSDS.

Labels. Chemical manufactures and importers will be required to provide a label that includes a harmonized single word, picture, and hazard statement for each hazard class and category.

Training. Employers are required to train workers by December 1, 2013. You, the employer, can train your employees about these new labels and how to interpret them.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

1-Day SCP Update Course on April 10, 2013, in Seattle.



3-Day SCP & 1 Day SCP Update Courses on April 17-19, 2013, in Anchorage, AK.

3-Day SCP Course April 24 -26 2013.

Looking for OSHA 10-hour Course? Sound Testing provides the OSHA 10-hour Maritime Employment course, designed for all people working in the Maritime Industry who want to learn more about workplace safety and health recognition using OSHA 29 CFR 1915, 1917, and 1918.

## OSHA

Questions: Call Sound Testing Inc. at 206.932.0206 or you can go online to the [OSHA.gov](http://www.osha.gov) website.

Join the Society of Port Engineers dinner meeting at Rock Salt restaurant on April 9<sup>th</sup> at 5:30PM to hear a presentation from the UW's Department of Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences who are researching ventilation in the ship repair industry.

For more information go to <http://www.sope-ps.org>



Rae Systems Lunch & Learn, April 11, 2013. "Wireless Gas Detection". RSVP required, click [here](#).

## SCP: Test Your Knowledge

Submit your answers to [newsletter@soundtestinginc.com](mailto:newsletter@soundtestinginc.com) before April 25, 2013. All correct answers will be entered into a random drawing and one person will win a \$25 gift card! One entry per person, please. Correct answers and the winning entry will be published in next month's "SCP Tribune".

Dangerous Atmospheres can kill or incapacitate a person, make self-rescue difficult, may injure workers or make them acutely sick. Some examples of dangerous atmospheres are spaces with:

- |                                |                                    |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| A. Less than ____% oxygen      | D. More than ____ppm Ammonia (PEL) |
| B. ____ than 22% oxygen        | E. More than ____% LEL             |
| C. More than ____ ppm CO (PEL) |                                    |

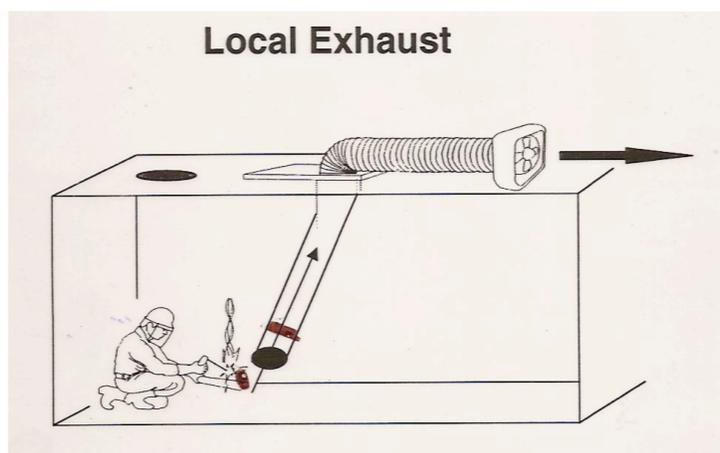
## Welding, Cutting, Brazing and Other Hot Work Activities in Confined Spaces:

### A Very Smoky Problem.

Hazardous activities such as welding, cutting and brazing pose a unique combination of both safety and health risks to more than 500,000 workers in a wide variety of industries. Arc welding and cutting torches burn off tiny particles of the metal, creating galvanized fume, chromium fume, stainless fume or iron fume depending on the material. The hazardous smoke in a confined space is a serious concern.

### Welding Fume Exposure: Signs and Symptoms

1. Acute exposure: Acute exposure to welding fumes can result in eye, nose, and throat irritation, fever, chills, headache, nausea, shortness of breath, muscle pain, and a metallic taste in the mouth.
2. Chronic exposure: Chronic exposure to welding fumes can result in respiratory effects including coughing, wheezing, and decreased pulmonary function.



Note that this diagram is not a realistic representation of point-source. The pictures to the right illustrate typical hot work.



### What do we do about welding fume?

OSHA regulation 29 CFR 1915 requires hot work operators in shipyards and conducting shipyard related activities to have ventilation in confined spaces. Ventilation should be arranged to remove fumes and smoke at the source (suction/point source) or to keep the concentration of the contaminant under the Permissible Exposure Limit (supply).

Controlling the smoke that comes from carbon-arcs and cutting torches is a constant challenge on the jobsite. It turns out these are not neat "point-sources" of smoke. Quantifying the efficiency of temporary ventilation is not an easy process. The University of Washington team is currently studying this very topic.

The practical application of capturing smoke from carbon-arc and cutting torches is to use portable blowers but is somewhat tricky and requires a good bit of trial and error. We will continue next month with the UW's insight.

### Resources:

OSHA: 800.321.OSHA

L&I Safety and Health Hotline: 800.423.7233

Seattle Fire Department Permit Office: 206.386.1450

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