filled or waffle-weave cotton and wool. Quilted nylon-shell, polyester-filled underwear, although it does not ignite any easier than cotton, will burn and melt to form a hot plastic mass which adheres to the skin and can cause serious injuries. Thermal underwear is designed only to be worn under other clothing and should not be exposed to open flames, sparks, or other sources of ignition See Fig 19–56 on page 525

Training in Safe Practices

Welders and cutters should be well trained in the safe practices that apply to their work The standards for training and qualification of welders set up by the American Welding Society are recommended A training program should particularly emphasize that a welder or cutter can best provide for his own safety and that of his coworkers by observing safe practices which include

1 For work at more than 5 ft above the floor or ground, use a platform with railings, or a safety belt and lifeline

2 Wear respiratory protection as needed and a safety harness with attached lifeline for work in confined spaces, such as tanks and pressure vessels The lifeline should be tended by a similarly equipped helper whose duty is to observe the welder or cutter and effect rescue in an emergency.

3 Take special precautions if welding or cutting in a confined space is stopped for some time Disconnect the power on arc welding or cutting units and remove the electrode from the holder Turn off the torch valves on gas welding or cutting units, shut off the gas supply at a point outside the confined area, and, if possible, remove the torch and hose from the area

4 After welding or cutting is completed, mark hot metal or post a warning sign to keep workers away from heated surfaces

5 Follow safe housekeeping principles Don't throw electrode or rod stubs on the floor—discard them in the proper waste container Keep tools and other tripping hazards off the floor—put them in a safe storage area

References

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ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code, Section IX, "Qualification Standard for Welding and Brazing Procedures, Welders, Brazers, and Welding and Brazing Operators" 1965

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