



Tailgate Safety Talk

Purpose: To ensure employees understand management's expectations for accident prevention and control.

Scope: Outline precautionary steps to take in order to prevent an incident/accident from occurring

Date: _____

Facility: _____

Title: Portable Heaters

Precautionary steps to be taken:

Electric Space Heaters

- Allow 3 feet of space around the front, sides, top, and rear of heater
- Don't use with extension cords or power strips
- Never leave the heater operating while unattended, including overnight
- Do not use within the same space as flammable vapors such as spray paint
- Inspect the heater, cord, and plug for damage before use. NEVER use a damaged heater!
- Always place heaters on level, stable surfaces where it cannot be knocked over
- During use, check frequently to determine if the plug, cord, wall outlet, or wall faceplate is hot. If any of these components become hot during use, unplug and contact an electrician
- Do not use near computer towers as the heat can cause damage to electronics

Propane Torpedo Heaters

- In addition to the safety tips above, propane torpedoes carry the extra risk of fires from operating with an open flame. Propane torpedo heaters should be marked off with a 3x3 foot square area using paint or tape, and no one should reach into or enter the marked off space.
- Never, ever use propane heaters to dry or warm clothing, including gloves and shoes, or reach into the marked zone to warm body parts. It is very common for clothing to catch fire and cause serious burns this way.
- Propane torpedoes should be checked for leaks regularly. Do not use a flame for leak detection. Leaks can be verified by mixing soap and water and applying a layer over the surface suspected when the heater is not in use. Propane leak detectors, which operate like carbon monoxide detectors, are available.
- When on, they should not be left unattended. When you are done with the work, turn off the gas supply at the container before disconnecting the burner and hose. That way, all the gas in the hose will be burned off.
- Make sure there is some ventilation in the work area where a propane heater is being used. This will reduce the risk of carbon monoxide poisoning as well as dissipating the propane in the event of a leak.
- Propane heaters like the one pictured here should never be used inside, and if used outside should be used with all the same safety precautions.



