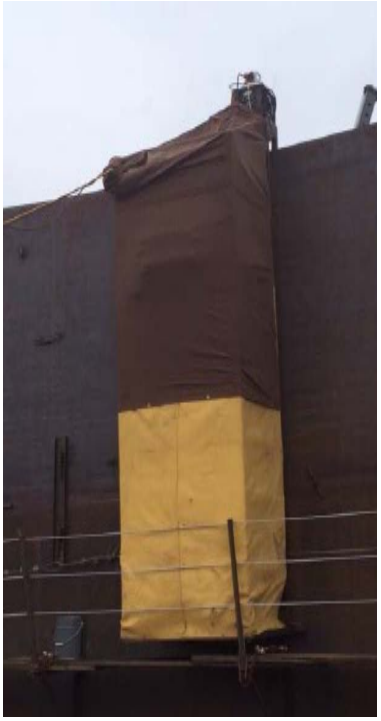
Safety Stinger

Pre-Task Planning – Think, Plan, Prevent

Incident Description: On May 6, 2015 a welder was grinding bead, preheating, and welding vertical seam inside a buggy when he smelled smoke. He looked down from the top of the cart and noticed the canvas tarp was on fire. He tried to put it out with his gloved hand, but realized it was too much. He exited thru the bottom right hand side of the cart to the scaffolding about 10" from the bottom of the cart. By the time he disconnected from the fall protection device the canvas tarp had burned up. No one was hurt in this incident. A stand down was enacted following this incident.



Immediate Observations:

- ✓ A regular tarp was used where a flame retardant welding blanket should have been used.
- ✓ The potential for fire in using the canvas tarp (a combustible material) was not recognized on the hot work permit, the JSA or during the morning crew huddle.

Lessons Learned:

- ✓ Only use fire blankets as spark containment on buggies and carts.
- ✓ Understand the equipment and operations in your work area.
- ✓ Take time to think about the consequences that could result from what you are about to do.

Safety Performance Tool to Prevent Future Occurrence:

Pre-Task Planning

Each morning, before work begins, time is set aside for all work crews to participate in the task planning process. Pre-Task Planning identifies the following:

- ✓ The day's work activities
- ✓ Hazards associated with each work activity
- ✓ The steps crews will take to avoid the identified hazards

**If conditions change throughout the day, a new Pre-Task Plan must be completed.*