

Actsafes Safety Bulletin #19

OPEN FLAMES ON MOTION PICTURE SETS



These guidelines are intended to give recommendations on the safe use of open flames on motion picture sets. This Safety Bulletin does not apply to full or partial body burns, fire breathing, or fire juggling. Such stunts should be performed only by qualified stunt persons under carefully controlled conditions.

1. When torches, candles, fireplaces or other open flames are used on a motion picture set, such use shall be under controlled conditions with due regard for the safety of all involved.
2. A responsible person shall be designated for the handling, placement, safe use and securing daily of any open flame devices.
3. Firmly secure all stationary open flame fixtures.
4. Flammables and combustibles shall be kept a safe distance from open flames. Additionally, where required, such materials shall be kept in approved and properly labeled containers.
5. All gas lines in connection with the use of open flames shall be approved in accordance with applicable building and fire codes. When using liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) hoses and fittings must be of a type approved for LPG service.
6. All cast and crew, including stunt performers, should be notified reasonably in advance of their involvement with open flames. Open flames which could cause a burn or other injury must be positioned or shielded to prevent contact by workers.
7. When fire is used, appropriate and properly maintained fire extinguishment equipment must be in close proximity and properly trained personnel should stand by.
8. Appropriate fire authorities should be contacted prior to the use of open flames, whether at a studio or on location.
9. The person responsible for igniting the flame should ensure he or she maintains a clear line of sight of the flame or maintains direct communication with a designated observer.