

# TOOLBOX TALKS

## Fire Prevention & Extinguishing – Waste Industry

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*Toolbox Talks are intended to facilitate health and safety discussions on the job site. For additional Toolbox Talks, please visit SAFETY.CAT.COM™.*

### TOPIC: Fire Prevention & Extinguishing

#### General Precautions

- Keep firefighting equipment where it is easy to find and access
- Keep all equipment clean
- Immediately clean up all trash and any oil spills
- Clean materials from heat sources on machines
- Turn off disconnect switch
- Perform proper walk around inspections

#### Flammable Liquids

- Take care to prevent vapors from flammable liquids, such as solvents, from coming into contact with heat or flames
- Store flammable liquids in appropriate, approved containers
- Always observe no smoking signs
- Never use gasoline as a cleaning agent

#### Fire Extinguishers and suppression systems

- Never use gasoline as a cleaning agent
- Check that all pins are in place on extinguishers and suppression systems
- Require monthly checks and take time to make sure the extinguisher and suppression system materials are not packed.
- Turn upside down and tap lightly with a rubber hammer to loosen packed material
- Use fire extinguishers on small fires only
- Aim at the base of the fire and use a sweeping motion
- Never block your passage of escape when fighting a fire
- Always use the proper type of extinguisher for the type of fire you are fighting

Discussion Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Employee Participants:

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