

# **FIRE HAZARDS**

## **electrical hazards**

- Damaged wiring
- Damaged plugs
- Damp or wet wires
- Overloaded motors
- Broken switches, outlets or sockets
- Problems with lighting fixtures
- Faulty heating elements
- Overloaded circuits
- Liquids near computers
- Computers without surge protectors

## **housekeeping hazards**

- Piles of scrap, waste materials, and trash
- Sawdust, metal or plastic powder that can form an explosive mixture with air
- Obstructed aisles
- Blocked emergency exits
- Material covering up fire extinguishers, exit signs, and alarms
- Blocked sprinkler heads

## **friction hazards**

- Hot bearings
- Misaligned or broken machine parts
- Choking or jamming materials
- Poor adjustment of moving parts
- Inadequate lubrication

## **process or operation-related hazards**

- Cutting and welding operations, which use open flames and produce sparks
- Molten metal, which can ignite combustibles or fall into cracks and start a fire that might not erupt until after the work is done
- Processes that heat materials to high temperatures
- Drying operations where materials in dryers can overheat
- Grinding operations that produce sparks and dust
- Processes in which flammable vapors are released

### **storage hazards**

- Materials stacked too high blocking sprinkler heads (need 18-inches clearance from head)
- Flammable or combustible materials stored too close to heat sources
- Flammable materials not stored in special containers and cabinets  
Inadequate ventilation in storage areas
- Materials that might react with one another stored together
- Materials stored in damaged containers
- Materials stored in unlabeled containers
- Containers not tightly sealed

### **smoking hazards**

- Ignoring "No Smoking" signs
- Smoking around flammable or combustible materials
- Throwing matches and cigarettes or cigars on tables or workbenches
- Tossing butts on the floor or grass without properly extinguishing them in an ashtray or ash can
- Tossing lighted butts or matches out windows or doors
- Smoking in bed
- Leaving a cigarette/cigar unattended
- Smoking in areas where there is an accumulation of sawdust, plastic or metal powders that may become explosive