



National  
Operational  
Guidance

# Hazard

## Extreme heat



**NFCC**  
National Fire  
Chiefs Council

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## Contents

Hazard - Extreme heat .....	3
<i>Control measure - Safe system of work: Extreme heat at industrial sites</i> .....	3



## Hazard - Extreme heat

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### Hazard Knowledge

Personnel may encounter extreme heat when attending industrial sites. Any personnel who cannot avoid being exposed to extreme heat should do so for as short a period as possible with an appropriate egress route.

Sources of extreme heat include:

- Ovens and kilns
- Boiler rooms
- Incinerators
- Equipment used for cleaning and sterilising
- Manufacturing processes
- Molten metals and furnaces

For further information about the effects of working in extreme heat, refer to the hazard, [Heat illness in personnel](#).



## Control measure - Safe system of work: Extreme heat at industrial sites

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### Control measure knowledge

The initial method of controlling the hazard of extreme heat may be to isolate power or fuel supplies to the source of heat.

However, in many circumstances it is unlikely that doing this will reduce the temperature of surfaces, items of equipment or atmospheres in a short space of time. If possible the area should be avoided. It may be feasible to use tactical ventilation to reduce the temperature.

Personnel should wear appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) when working in extreme heat. There should be appropriate crew rotation for personnel working in extreme heat, and they should be monitored for the effects of heat illness.

## Strategic actions

Fire and rescue services should:

- Ensure that information about equipment that generates extreme heat and how to safely isolate it, is included in SSRI

## Tactical actions

Incident commanders should:

- Liaise with the responsible person for information about equipment or processes that generate extreme heat and the isolation procedures
- Consider isolating the source of extreme heat
- Consider avoiding the area affected by extreme heat
- Ensure personnel wear PPE appropriate for working in extreme heat
- Closely supervise personnel and implement appropriate rotation of personnel for those working in extreme heat
- Monitor personnel for the effects of heat illness
- Consider tactical ventilation to reduce temperatures