Heat, Smoke and Specialized Hazard Triggers

TOPIC 11 / WRITTEN LESSON



Identify when general awareness must lead to a specialized plan, training or qualified survey.

Identify the actual exposure

Weather and materials can introduce hazards outside an ordinary office checklist. Review outdoor heat, wildfire smoke and the tasks that could disturb suspect building materials. Other operations may require additional respiratory, hearing, dust or specialized programs. The general series is a trigger to obtain the correct assessment, not a complete technical course for every exposure.

Plan before heat or smoke

Use the current Washington outdoor-heat and wildfire-smoke rules for the relevant work and industry. Review written planning, training, communication, monitoring, appropriate exposure controls, medical response and worker protection. Heat requirements depend on conditions and clothing; do not use one temperature as a universal safe limit. Smoke decisions should use the correct current PM2.5 or corresponding NowCast PM2.5 AQI, not an unrelated pollutant index.

Do not disturb suspect materials for a class

Before work that could disturb suspect asbestos-containing material, obtain the required good-faith inspection by an appropriately certified building inspector and follow the applicable communication and abatement rules. Building age alone is not a clearance. This lesson does not authorize sampling, removal, cleanup or asbestos work.

Define the stop and escalation point

Assign a competent reviewer, identify the required external expertise and keep workers out of unassessed exposure. Update the program, task instruction and control verification when conditions change. Keep technical procedures and actual exposure/medical records in the appropriate systems.

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TOPIC 11 / INSPECTION AND EVIDENCE



What an inspector may review

- Applicable specialized hazard assessments and plans
- Current monitoring/communication and understandable training
- Qualified asbestos survey/communication when required
- Protective response and review when conditions change

Records and evidence to locate

- Hazard-trigger and qualified-review register
- Heat/smoke plan and current information source
- Required survey and contractor communication references
- Training, controls and effectiveness review

Typical gaps to correct

- Weather exposure omitted from relevant planning
- Wrong air-quality measure or outdated action reference
- Disturbing suspect materials without the required qualified survey

Worked example - fictional Harbor Supply

Harbor schedules outdoor work during smoke and proposes drilling into an older wall while reorganizing storage.

The team separates the outdoor exposure decision from the building-material review. It checks current heat/smoke requirements and obtains the appropriate qualified survey before disturbance. An academy certificate is not a respirator fit test or asbestos credential.

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TOPIC 11 / FACILITATOR KIT



Before the meeting

Choose a relevant, safe example; check the current rules and site procedure. Review open hazards, recent investigations and the prevention program. Arrange language or accessibility support.

0-3

State the topic, review previous corrective actions, and invite worker observations without retaliation.

3-10

Use the lesson and the worked example. Ask workers to identify the exposure, the control and the responsible person.

10-17

Use a fictional work-order review to identify the hazard triggers, the information needed and the qualified person to contact. Do not sample materials or demonstrate exposure.

17-20

Use the teach-back questions. Record actual attendees and topics, assign actions and a verification date. This 20-minute agenda is a suggested teaching plan, not a universal meeting-frequency rule.

Teach-back discussion

- What exposure has changed?
- Which current measurement or qualified assessment is needed?
- What work waits for the required review?

Use actual attendees and topics in the meeting record. Do not enter private medical details here or treat a fictional exercise as proof of a real correction.

Official references

L&I outdoor heat prevention rules and training

L&I wildfire smoke rules and current PM2.5 guidance

L&I asbestos survey and certification requirements

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TOPIC 11 / FILLABLE WORKPLACE EXERCISE



Use the fictional example first. Keep real personnel and medical records in your approved secure systems.

Site / department / task

Actual observation and evidence reference

Workers consulted / language needs

Existing control and observed gap

Protective action and responsible person

Due date / verification method

What changed / remaining concern / follow-up date

Explain it back

What exposure has changed?

Which current measurement or qualified assessment is needed?

What work waits for the required review?