

# SECTION 1 – FUME EXTRACTION SAFETY PRECAUTIONS – READ BEFORE USING

fume\_2009-11

## 1-1. Fume Extraction Hazards

 Only qualified persons should install, operate, maintain, and repair this unit.



### **FUME EXTRACTOR MISUSE can be hazardous.**

Welding produces fumes and gases. Breathing these fumes and gases can be hazardous to your health.

- Read and follow these instructions and the safety labels carefully. The fume extractor helps protect the user from specific airborne contaminants but must be used correctly to be fully effective. Have an industrial hygienist test the air in your facility to ensure the fume extractor provides adequate protection from contaminants in your environment. If you have questions about the extractor, see equipment label and consult your Safety Director and an Industrial Hygienist.
  - Follow all applicable ANSI, OSHA, CSA, UL, and other regulatory guidelines pertaining to the use of respirators.
  - Do not use the fume extractor without an approved and properly installed spark guard unless the unit is designed and intended to be used without one. Without the spark guard, welding sparks may ignite the filter or damage the filters and allow unfiltered air into the breathing zone.
  - Only use the fume extractor only to extract weld fumes. Do not use the fume extractor to extract hot gases (above 104° F/40° C) wood or cement dust, engine exhaust, liquid vapors, explosive materials, aggressive fumes (acid), fumes from burning objects, or fumes from cleaning, cutting, gouging, grinding, painting, flame spraying, sand blasting, or other non-welding operations.
  - Use the fume extractor only in atmospheres for which it is recommended. Do not use the extractor where contaminant levels are unknown or are immediately dangerous to life, or where the contaminant levels exceed the fume extractor specifications.
- Do not weld until you are sure the fume extractor is correctly assembled and working properly.
  - Before each use, inspect the fume extractor for damage and verify it operates properly.
  - Dangerous contaminants may not smell or be visible. Leave the area immediately if you notice the following:
    - a. Breathing becomes difficult.
    - b. You experience dizziness, impaired vision, or eye, nose, or mouth irritation.
    - c. The equipment is damaged.
    - d. Air flow decreases or stops.
    - e. If you think the equipment is not supplying adequate protection.
  - Do not repair, modify, or disassemble the fume extractor or use with parts or accessories not supplied by the manufacturer. Use only approved components from the manufacturer.
  - Replace damaged or clogged filter. Do not wash or reuse filter, or clean filter by tapping or with compressed air, unless specifically instructed by the manufacturer in the Owner's Manual (filter element may be damaged). Do not breathe the dust collected by the fume extractor. Wear approved safety equipment (respirator, gloves, long sleeve shirt) when performing filter maintenance. Dispose of used filter element and collected dust according to local, state, and federal requirements.
  - Read and understand the Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDSs) and the manufacturer's instructions for metals, consumables, coatings, cleaners, and degreasers.
  - The fume extractor must be used with the extraction arm, hoses, filter, and other components recommended by the manufacturer.