



FIRE SAFETY MANAGEMENT

ARSON CONTROLS

GOOD PRACTICE GUIDANCE

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INTRODUCTION

This good practice has been generated to help prevent any potential arson attack. Sites may be more vulnerable to arson attack if they are located within or close by to residential housing areas.

Arson attacks can normally be split into 2 categories:

1. Random attack.
2. Attack by known individual to the Company (i.e. disgruntled ex-employee).

KEY CONTROLS

1. A high standard of physical security for all external areas of the site. including entrances, windows and other access points of the building.
2. Prevention of any free access to any roof areas (i.e. blanking plates/gates on fixed ladders).
3. Consider a well-designed CCTV system covering all of the external areas of the site. Monitoring the CCTV system has proven an effective deterrent. Routine security patrols are also another effective deterrent. It is important that the site operating CCTV displays appropriate CCTV in operation signage.
4. If required, store a minimal quantity of combustible materials externally at the site, as this could be used by the arsonist (i.e. plastic chemical containers, wooden pallets, linen stock).
5. High standards of housekeeping should be maintained in all external areas (particularly areas of lint accumulations from ducting).
6. Do not park commercial vehicles / other vehicles against the building overnight (where the site footprint allows). If vehicles are set alight, it can spread to the building.

Note 1 – This document has been published as a guideline for “Good Practice” only. It is not legal advice or a legal briefing document
Note 2 - The “Good Practices” highlighted in the document may be incorporated into individual company health and safety management systems. Copyright © 2020 Textile Services Association. All rights reserved. For further information on this guideline please contact tsa@tsa-uk.org

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7. Wheeled waste skips should be secured (i.e. caged or chained/padlocked) into position to prevent them from being moved against the building.
8. There should be a physical gap for roller shutter doors and windows (and other entrances) between the internal side of the roller shutter doors and any internally stored linen stock. This physical gap should be as large as possible – ideally, a minimum of 1 metre.
9. Ensure that no uncontrolled and unsecured flammable substances (i.e. fuel containers) are available in any external area.
10. Ensure that a suitable “End of day shutdown” process is fully operational which includes a check of all of these prevention measures to help stop an arsonist.
11. The building should have fully operational intruder and fire alarm systems and these systems should be set to the right mode at the end of the day when the site is shut down.

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Questions or comments to:

Shyju Skariah

Director Programmes and Projects

E: shyju.skariah@tsa-uk.org

Textile Services Association

Venture House, 2 Arlington Square

Downshire Way, Bracknell

RG12 1WA

E: tsa@tsa-uk.org

T: 020 3151 5600



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WWW.TSA-UK.ORG