

Overview

This Standard is about your ability to design and produce practical fire effects.

It requires knowledge of ignition and extinguishing methods and the health and safety management which surrounds this work. You must be fully aware of the procedures and protocols around igniting, controlling and extinguishing a practical fire.

This Standard is not concerned with explosive fireballs; these fall under the auspices of pyrotechnics.

This Standard is for you if you create practical fire special effects.

Create practical fire effects

Performance criteria*You must be able to:*

1. create practical fire effects in line with production script breakdown and budget constraints
2. check the location is suitable for fire effects being produced
3. use the most appropriate materials to create fire effects
4. consult with and communicate all aspects of designs to key production personnel
5. exchange clear information with all departments involved with effects
6. source, purchase, transport and store regulated materials in compliance with current legislation
7. use reliable information to assess the impact of effects on location and its environment
8. provide guidance on all health and safety aspects of effects and their materials to appropriate heads of department and production personnel
9. ensure there is adequate provision for cast and crew safety in line with legislation
10. employ competent crew with relevant skills and experience for the job
11. maintain records of materials used, transportation and storage in appropriate formats
12. liaise with relevant bodies and enforcing authorities to ensure all legal protocols are adhered to
13. advise relevant people when personal protective equipment is required
14. make sure that suitable and competent fire cover is present
15. record all aspects of risk assessment and management in required formats, providing documentation to others as required
16. make sure that all materials used are disposed of in line with legal and production requirements
17. make sure that locations are returned to their required state
18. provide alternative solutions within budget and schedule when effects cannot be produced to original design or budget

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Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

1. script breakdown, budget and schedule for the fire effects
2. the range of practical fire effects and how to achieve them
3. the steps taken to create a stunt body burn
4. current health and safety legislation and industry standards to be met when creating practical fire effects
5. the role of the the art department regarding flame retarded sets
6. the environment in which the effect is being tested and executed
7. the necessary fire prevention and retarding requirements
8. the various methods of ignition and extinguishing
9. the fume extraction and ventilation testing required
10. the properties of the different flammable materials available, how to use them and their disadvantages
11. how flammable materials can be sourced or manufactured
12. how to use hoses, connections and valves and outlet devices for fire effects
13. the correct procedures for transporting and storing flammable materials
14. how to act in case of emergency or accident
15. the different equipment used for different scale fires
16. safe operating positions for crew on set
17. the appropriate levels of special effects staff coverage to ensure the safety of cast and crew at all times
18. how to employ competent individuals or third party specialists to work collaboratively within a team
19. the items of personal protective equipment to distribute and to whom
20. how to liaise with local fire officers and when it is appropriate to do so
21. what can be achieved by post production and visual effects

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Suite Physical Special Effects

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