

Extremes Of Temperature Policy

Steadfast Roofing ensures risks associated with exposure to extremes in temperatures are identified and adequately controlled.

Outdoor work activities should be arranged to consider extended periods of excessive heat or cold. If practical, work should commence and finish at times that avoid the greatest heat.

Other considerations for thermal discomfort are:

- The time staff are exposed to hot tasks is reduced through job rotation (frequent brief exposures are less stressful than fewer longer exposures).
- Arranging extra ventilation to increase air movement.
- Doors and windows are closed to the heat for all or part of the day to prevent hot winds entering the room or building.
- Heat generating equipment such as screen-based equipment, quota copiers or incandescent lights are turned off where practical.
- Windows are covered with either blinds or reflective coating and
- Fans are used in low ventilation.

Staff are encouraged to take frequent cool drinks and discouraged from drinking alcoholic or caffeine-based drinks. Managers and supervisors should ensure that there is cool water close to working areas.

Staff should be aware of compounding factors which can increase susceptibility to heat stress such as, pre-existing heart or circulatory problems, dehydration, fever or diarrhoea.

Managers and supervisors shall monitor working conditions and when working in heat becomes difficult, to direct those certain tasks cease and allow staff to go home or move to a cooler environment.

Staff working outdoors should take the following precautions:

- Use protective clothing particularly covering the head. Head coverings should be wide brimmed hats rather than caps.
- Wear sunglasses (UV protective safety glasses) for eye protection.
- Use protective sun cream/lotion on exposed parts of the body.
- Arrange work patterns that maximise work in shady areas.
- Avoid heavy work during the hottest part of the day.
- Use personal water containers and drink 250ml of water every half hour.

Managers and supervisors shall assess working conditions and the extent of staff discomfort on a regular basis. This is particularly important on the third and fourth days of periods where the outside temperature has been 35°C and greater. Based on assessment, managers and supervisors have the discretion to place limitations on the work of their staff.

If working issues continue to be adversely affected by prolonged extreme heat, managers and supervisors may cease all activities and send staff home under special leave arrangements.



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