

Safe Practices for Roofing Torch Use



*Circle identifies hidden wood.

CERTA — NRCA Certified Roofing Torch Applicator Program Smart insurance carriers require it and you should too

Here's why:

What are the dangers associated with torches on roofs?

Extreme danger to life and property:

- Entire building could burn down
- Employees and others could suffer serious burns

How do fires occur?

- Negative air pressure sucks flame into building
- Hidden wood is ignited
- Wood cant strips in concealed areas catch fire
- Careless use of torch
- Combustibles smolder and ignite after roofer leaves job site

Trained applicators know safe practices and do the following:

- Identify and protect all combustible roof components
- Safely use a roofing torch in hazardous areas
- Exercise two-hour fire watch after any torching activity

Historical Torch/Fire Losses from Roofing Claims

Since the implementation of the CERTA program, CNA has helped roofing contractors save \$12,000,000 in potential incurred claims. In addition to the cost savings, your clients have the security of knowing that their roofing contractor has been properly trained in the use of torches when installing, repairing or servicing their roofs. Thank you to all of our CERTA-trained roofing contractors for raising the bar and making the industry better.

CERTA claim data – 2002 to 2009

Accident Year	# of Claims	Incurred Losses
2002	46	\$13,784,800
2003	23	\$7,822,500
2004	20	\$3,901,000
2005	13	\$6,709,500
2006	17	\$1,563,500
2007	11	\$377,800
2008	10	\$542,407
2009	3	\$954,960

Data source: Merlin as of October 2010

For more information, contact your independent agent or broker or visit NRCA at www.NRCA.net.

