



Company \_\_\_\_\_ Job Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Weekly Tool Box Talk: **Chemical Safety**

There are several ways chemicals can enter your body:

1. Inhalation : Chemical vapors, dust or gases can be inhaled if you're not wearing a respirator or proper respiratory equipment.
2. Absorption: Some chemicals can be absorbed right through your skin and enter your body. You can prevent this hazard by wearing the appropriate gloves and protective clothing.
3. Ingestion: You may be ingesting small doses of chemicals daily and not even realize it. Chemicals can be absorbed by food, cigarettes and drinks. They can also remain on your skin and be transferred to your food if you don't wash your hands before eating. Always be sure to wash your hands before eating and make sure you store food away from your work area.
4. Spillage: There is always a chance that you may be accidentally splashed or exposed to a chemical. To prevent injury you should always wear the proper protective equipment, according to company policy and the requirement of each specific chemical.

Here are some basic safety tips about chemicals:

1. Read the label. It will tell you what you need to know about your chemical. If you find you need more information, ask your supervisor for a copy of the material safety data sheet. The MSDS gives more technical information about the chemical than the label.
2. Dress the part. Wear the proper safety protection, clothing and equipment as required.
3. Follow directions. If the label says, use only with adequate ventilation make sure you do so. Never mix chemicals unless you've been trained and authorized by your company.
4. Know emergency procedures. Be familiar with first aid procedures, and be sure to know where the emergency eye wash showers are located; also know where emergency phone numbers are posted.
5. Be careful! Don't work alone, make sure there is someone there to help you if necessary. Don't try to hurry or take shortcuts, you just can't rush safety! Don't roughhouse or goof around. Chemical safety is a job for professionals.
6. Report any suspected problems. If you notice any malfunctioning equipment or any electrical equipment that is in need of repair, report it to your supervisor immediately. Also report any suspected problems with your chemicals, if the chemical odor has hanged or is unusual, don't use that chemical. It may have changed with time. Report anything unusual to your supervisor.
7. Keep your work area neat, clean and organized. You'll know where everything is, and you'll be able to work more efficiently.
8. Store everything properly. Make sure to close containers tightly. Keep flammables in a safe area, and use only the smallest amount necessary for the job. Store compressed gas in leak- free containers.

Safety Recommendations: \_\_\_\_\_

Job Specific Topics: \_\_\_\_\_

M.S.D.S. Reviewed: \_\_\_\_\_

Attended By: \_\_\_\_\_

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