Safety Newsletter

May 2022

First Aid–Treating fractures

Call 911 if someone at your workplace suffers a fracture as the result of major trauma or injury, including situations in which:

- The victim is unresponsive, isn't breathing, or isn't moving. Begin CPR if there's no breathing or heartbeat.
- There is heavy bleeding.
- Even gentle pressure or movement causes pain.
- The limb or joint appears deformed.
- The bone has pierced the skin.
- The extremity of the injured arm or leg, such as a toe or finger, is numb or bluish at the tip.
- You suspect a bone is broken in the neck, head, or back.

Don't move the person except if necessary to avoid further injury. Follow the company's policy for reporting injuries, as well as the company's procedure for first-aid treatment. Take these actions immediately while waiting for medical help:

- **Stop any bleeding.** Put on gloves from a first-aid kit. Then apply pressure to the wound with a sterile bandage, a clean cloth, or a clean piece of clothing.
- **Immobilize the injured area.** If you've been trained in how to splint and professional help isn't readily available, apply a splint to the area above and below the fracture sites. Padding the splints can help reduce discomfort.
- **Ice the injured area.** Wrap an ice pack in a clean piece of cloth and apply it to the injured area for up to 10 minutes at a time.
- **Treat for shock.** If the person feels faint or has shortness of breath, lay the victim down, with the head slightly lower than the trunk. If possible, elevate the legs.

The victim should follow the company's procedure for seeking medical treatment.

OSHA Requirements for Truckers

Although trucking is regulated by the Department of Transportation (DOT), truckers are also subject to labor laws, including Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) regulations.

The DOT preempts OSHA's jurisdiction over the interstate trucking industry while traveling public roads. The DOT regulates driving over public highways, the health and safety of drivers involving their use of drugs and alcohol, hours of service, and use of seat belts. The DOT also regulates commercial driving licensing (CDL) and the roadworthiness of trucks and trailers, as well as has specific requirements for the safe operation of trucks.

OSHA regulations govern the safety and health of workers to ensure their safety at factories, grain handling facilities, warehouses, stores, construction sites, airport terminals, marine terminals, wharves, piers, and shipyards—wherever truckers go to deliver and pick up loads. While OSHA does not regulate self-employed truckers, it does regulate workplaces to which the truckers deliver goods and the workers who receive those goods.

Loading and unloading. Loading and unloading operations are the primary trucking activities in which OSHA takes an interest. Make sure you are following all of the safety requirements at the facility where you are loading and unloading. Loading dock operations may include but are not limited to:

- Parking the truck at the dock
- Chocking or securing to the dock
- Manual material handling
- Unloading and loading with a forklift

Servicing rim wheels. OSHA has very specific training requirements for people who service multipiece and single-piece rim wheels. Do not attempt this unless you are fully trained. Fully inflated truck tires have a tremendous force. If any of their components fail, the release of explosive pressure can seriously injure or even kill anyone nearby.

Vehicle maintenance. OSHA regulates the performance of all vehicle maintenance activities in terminal operations. The agency also regulates mobile maintenance activities on the highways. OSHA's general industry standards apply to workers performing maintenance on all types of commercial motor vehicles.

Transporting hazardous materials. OSHA has limited jurisdiction. If an employer gives a truck driver responsibility to respond to emergency spills of hazardous substances or directs the driver to drive onto hazardous waste sites, the driver is covered by OSHA's Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response (HAZWOPER) Standard.

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Bloodborne Pathogens-Exposure Control Plans

OSHA's Bloodborne Pathogens (BBPs) Standard requires employers to eliminate, or at least minimize, the hazards of occupational exposure to BBPs. Employees face a significant health risk as the result of occupational exposure to blood and other potentially infectious material (OPIM). Every employer that has one or more employees who are reasonably anticipated to have occupational exposure to blood or OPIM must have a written exposure control plan (ECP) designed to eliminate or minimize employee exposure. The ECP must be accessible to employees at all times.

The ECP must include the following information:

- Employee exposure determination.
- Procedures for evaluating the circumstances surrounding an exposure incident; *and*
- The schedule and method of implementation for the provisions of the standard, including:
  - ✓ Methods of compliance.
  - ✓ Human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) and hepatitis B virus (HBV) research laboratories and production facilities.
  - ✓ HBV vaccination and postexposure evaluation and follow-up.
  - ✓ Training and communication of hazards to employees; *and*
  - ✓ Recordkeeping.

Employers required to establish an ECP must solicit input from nonmanagerial employees responsible for direct patient care who are potentially exposed to injuries from contaminated sharps about the identification, evaluation, and selection of effective engineering and work practice controls and must document the solicitation in the ECP.

The ECP must be reviewed and updated at least annually and whenever necessary to reflect any new or revised employee tasks and procedures that affect occupational exposure or any changes in technology that reduce or eliminate exposure.

The HazCom Standard: QUIZ

1. Employers must provide information to their employees about the hazardous chemicals to which they are exposed. TRUE or FALSE.

2. A physical hazard means a chemical that is classified as posing which of the following hazardous effects? Choose all that apply.

A. Explosive
B. Acute toxicity
C. Flammable
D. Skin corrosion

3. A health hazard means a chemical that is classified as posing which of the following hazardous effects? Choose all that apply.

A. Explosive
B. Acute toxicity
C. Flammable
D. Skin corrosion

4. A pyrophoric gas means a chemical in a gaseous state that will ignite spontaneously in air at a temperature of which of the following?

A. 130ºF
B. 130ºF
C. 230ºF
D. 330ºF

ANSWERS

1. TRUE. 2. A. & C. 3. B. & D. 4. B.

The HazCom Standard

The purpose of hazard communication (HazCom) is to classify the potential hazards of chemicals and communicate information concerning hazardous chemicals and appropriate protective measures to employers and employees. Employers must provide information to their employees about the hazardous chemicals to which they are exposed by means of a written HazCom program, labels and other forms of warning, safety data sheets (SDSs), and information and training.

A ***hazardous chemical*** is any chemical that is classified as a physical hazard, a health hazard, a simple asphyxiant, a combustible dust, or a pyrophoric gas or as exhibiting a hazard not otherwise classified:

- ***Physical hazard*** means a chemical that is classified as posing one of the following hazardous effects: explosive; flammable (gases, aerosols, liquids, or solids); oxidizer (liquid, solid, or gas); self-reactive; pyrophoric (liquid or solid); self-heating; organic peroxide; corrosive to metal; gas under pressure; or emits flammable gas when in contact with water.
- ***Health hazard*** means a chemical that is classified as posing one of the following hazardous effects: acute toxicity (any route of exposure); skin corrosion or irritation; serious eye damage or eye irritation; respiratory or skin sensitization; germ cell mutagenicity; carcinogenicity; reproductive toxicity; specific target organ toxicity (single or repeated exposure); or aspiration hazard.
- ***Simple asphyxiant*** means a substance or mixture that displaces oxygen in the ambient atmosphere and can thus cause oxygen deprivation in those who are exposed, leading to unconsciousness and death.
- ***Pyrophoric gas*** means a chemical in a gaseous state that will ignite spontaneously in air at a temperature of 130ºF (54.4ºC) or below.

Generator Identification of Hazardous Waste: QUIZ

1. Hazardous waste can only be disposed of at specific sites that have a special permit. TRUE or FALSE.

2. Characteristic wastes are common from manufacturing and industrial processes and specific industries. TRUE or FALSE.

3. A waste is hazardous if it has which of the following characteristic properties? Choose all that apply.

A. Corrosivity

B. Ignitability

C. Reactivity

D. All of the above

4. What are the labeling requirements for containers of hazardous waste? Choose all that apply.

A. Containers must be marked with the words “Hazardous Waste.”

B. Containers must be marked with an indication of the hazards of the contents.

C. Containers must be marked with the accumulation start date on containers in the central accumulation area (CAA).

D. There are no labeling requirements for containers of hazardous waste.

5. It is difficult to identify which wastes are hazardous. TRUE or FALSE.

Generator Identification of Hazardous Waste

Hazardous waste is regulated by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), which only allows it to be disposed of at specific sites that have a special permit. The EPA says a waste is hazardous if it is either what the EPA refers to as a “characteristic hazardous waste” or what the EPA refers to as a “listed hazardous waste.”

Characteristic wastes. First, a waste is hazardous if it has one or more of the following four characteristic properties: corrosivity, ignitability, reactivity, and toxicity.

- **Corrosivity.** If the waste is corrosive, it can burn the eyes or skin or body tissue on contact. Corrosives can also corrode standard containers. Examples of corrosive wastes include battery acids, rust removers, and alkaline cleaning solutions.
- **Ignitability.** An ignitable waste can catch fire or explode easily when exposed to heat or a spark. Most ignitable wastes are liquid in physical form, and examples include paints, cleaners, certain compressed gases, and chemicals that are oxidizers.
- **Reactivity.** A reactive waste can catch fire, explode, or give off dangerous vapors if it comes in contact with air, water, or certain other substances. Examples of reactive wastes include cyanide plating wastes, metallic sodium and potassium, and waste concentrated bleaches.
- **Toxicity.** Wastes with the characteristic of toxicity are poisonous and contact with these wastes can cause severe illness or death. Metals such as lead, mercury, chromium, arsenic, cadmium, and silver are considered toxic, as are chlorinated solvents such as chlorobenzene and cresol.

To determine if a waste exhibits any of the four hazardous waste characteristics, a generator can either apply its knowledge of the waste’s properties or test a sample of the waste as specified in the hazardous waste rules.

Listed wastes. The EPA lists hundreds of specific industrial waste streams as hazardous. This second type of hazardous waste is from common manufacturing and industrial processes and specific industries. These wastes are either described or listed in the hazardous waste rules. To identify a waste as hazardous, a company has to determine if the waste being generated or managed is any of these “listed” hazardous wastes.

Labeling on-site

Generators using containers or tanks to accumulate hazardous waste on-site have to label or mark the containers with the words “Hazardous Waste” and an indication of the hazards of the contents. The hazard information can be conveyed by any of these ways:

- Indicating the applicable hazardous waste characteristics.
- By hazard communication consistent with the Department of Transportation (DOT) labeling or placarding.
- Showing an Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) hazard statement or pictogram; *or*
- Applying a chemical hazard label consistent with the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Code.

This labeling is required in both satellite accumulation areas (SAAs) and central accumulation areas (CAAs). Generators must also indicate visibly the accumulation start date on containers in the CAA. This is the date hazardous waste is first placed in the container. The start date is needed so that the generator can determine how long the waste has been accumulating in the container and ship it off-site at the right time. The length of the accumulation time period is based on whether the generator is a large or a small quantity generator.

Generator Identification of Hazardous Waste: ANSWERS

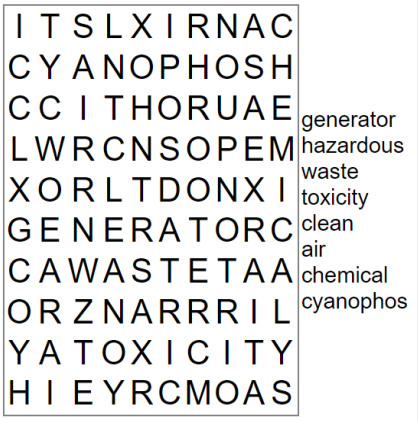
1. **FALSE.** MCE must be managed as universal waste.

2. **TRUE.** You must label or mark the containers holding the MCE as soon as the first MCE device is placed in the container.

3. **A.** A universal waste handler that accumulates less than 5,000 kg of universal wastes at any time is considered a small quantity handler of universal waste.

4. **A.** Universal waste MCE has a storage time limit of 1 year at a facility.

5. **TRUE.** A container holding only mercury-containing thermostats can be marked differently than containers holding other MCE and use the words “mercury thermostats” instead of MCE.



National Clean Air Month 2022

Sponsored by the American Lung Association (ALA) since 1972, Clean Air Month is observed in May each year across the United States. Initially a weeklong campaign, the event was lengthened to a month in 1994. The awareness campaign aims to educate people about the impact that clean air has on our lives and encourages people to take positive steps to improve the air quality.

The following are some ways to protect yourself from the dangers of air pollution:

- **Check local daily air pollution forecasts.** The color-coded forecasts let you know when the air is unhealthy in your community.
- **Avoid exercising outdoors when pollution levels are high.** When the air is bad, walk indoors in a shopping mall or gym, or use an exercise machine.
- **Always avoid exercising near high-traffic areas.** Even when air quality forecasts are green, the vehicles on busy highways can create high pollution levels up to one-third of a mile away.
- **Use less energy in your home.** Generating electricity and other sources of energy creates air pollution.
- **Walk, bike, or carpool.** Combine trips. Use public transportation or other alternatives to driving your car.
- **Don't burn wood or trash.** Burning firewood and trash is among the major sources of particle pollution in many parts of the country.
- **Use hand-powered or electric lawn care equipment** rather than gasoline-powered.

Chemical Spotlight: Cyanophos

Cyanophos is a yellow to reddish-yellow, clear liquid when pure. Commercial forms include oil-based liquid sprays, dust, and emulsifiable concentrates. It is used as a pesticide.

Store Cyanophos in tightly closed containers in a cool, well-ventilated area away from light. Sources of ignition, such as smoking and open flames, are prohibited where Cyanophos is used, handled, or stored in a manner that could create a potential fire or explosion hazard.

If Cyanophos is spilled or leaked, avoid breathing vapors, mist, or gas, and ensure adequate ventilation. Remove all sources of ignition and evacuate personnel to safe areas. Use personal protective equipment (PPE), including goggles or safety glasses, gloves, flame-retardant protective clothing, and respiratory protection.

Prevent further leakage or spillage if safe to do so, and do not let the product enter drains, sewers, underground or confined spaces, groundwater, or waterways or discharge into the environment. Absorb liquids with vermiculate, dry sand, or earth, and deposit in sealed containers. Collect powdered material in the most convenient and safe manner, and deposit in sealed containers. Ventilate and wash the area after cleanup is complete. It may be necessary to contain and dispose of Cyanophos as a hazardous waste. Contact the federal and local EPA for specific recommendations.