

### SPECIAL

### CONTROL APPROACHES 4

#### Background

Control approach 4 - Special means you have a situation where you need more specific and specialist advice than provided by Enform's Controlling Chemical Hazards guideline and/or web project. The advice may come from a more detailed Enform guidance document, or you may need to involve an expert, such as a qualified occupational hygienist. An occupational hygienist can give you site-specific advice on your risk assessment, the possibility of substituting the chemical you are using for a less hazardous one, and control measures. It is important that you seek further advice.

#### Design and Equipment

- » The Controlling Chemical Hazards guideline and web project identifies control approach 4 if:
  - You plan to use chemicals that do not have existing "R-Phrases" or "H-Statements"
  - You plan to use very toxic materials
  - You plan to use a solid and liquid mixture
  - You plan processes that change the physical or chemical properties of hazardous materials
  - You plan to use volatile solids
  - You need to implement more complex controls Like:
    - engineering controls
    - containment
    - special personal protective equipment

See GS- Advice for Planners - When is Expert Advice Needed

- » Enform may have published detailed guidance on your chemical and task. Go to the publications section of Enform's website to find out [www.enform.ca](http://www.enform.ca).
- » In general you will need a fully qualified Occupational Hygienist to evaluate the risks associated with chemical hazards if the Managing Chemical Hazards System identifies control approach 4. The individual you select should be certified by either the Canadian Registration Board of Occupational Hygiene (CRBOH) as a Registered Occupational Hygienist (ROH) or by the American Board of Industrial Hygiene (ABIH) as a Certified Industrial Hygienist (CIH).
- » The CRBOH maintains a list of occupational hygiene consultants that can help you, <http://www.crboh.ca/page.cfm?onumber=175>

#### Examination and testing

- » Visually check all equipment at least once a week for signs of damage.
- » Have equipment thoroughly examined and tested against its performance standard. This is generally at least every 2 years.
- » Keep records of all examinations and tests for at least five years.

#### Cleaning and housekeeping

- » Clean equipment and the work area daily. Clean other equipment and the workroom regularly - once a week is recommended.
- » Store packages/containers in a safe place, and dispose of empty packages/containers safely.
- » Put lids on containers immediately after use.
- » Deal with any spills immediately.
- » For dusts, don't clean up with a dry brush or compressed air, use a vacuum system or wet cleaning.
- » For liquids, contain or absorb (with granules or mats).

#### Personal protective equipment (PPE)

- » Chemicals in hazard group S can damage the skin and eyes, or enter the body through the skin and cause harm. Supplemental protective equipment (e.g., gloves, face shields, aprons) is required (GS Skin Contact and GS Gloves). Check the safety data sheets to see what personal protective equipment is necessary.
- » Fire resistant/retardant work wear is required for all oilfield work. (GS Fire Resistant Clothing)
- » Respiratory protective equipment (RPE) shouldn't be needed for routine tasks. It may be needed for some cleaning and maintenance activities, e.g., dealing with spills. Be aware that some maintenance activity may involve entry into confined spaces. Decide if supplied air is needed when RPE is used.
- » Ensure PPE is kept in a clean condition and replaced when necessary.



# CONTROLLING CHEMICAL HAZARDS

## Guidance Sheet

### Training

- » Give your workers information on the harmful nature of the chemicals.
- » Provide them with training on: operating the process; following maintenance procedures; when and how to use PPE; and how to detect and deal with leaks.

### Supervision

- » Have a system to check that control measures are in place and are being followed.

#### TIPS ON SELECTING A CONSULTANT

- Do your research. Know something about the services and/or products you are looking for.
- Be able to clearly identify your needs, requirements and expectations for the consultant.
- Examine the qualifications of the consultant. Ask for relevant certifications, training, previous experience and references. Satisfy yourself that they are qualified and competent to provide the service.
- Keep in mind that enlisting the services of a consultant does not exempt an employer from their responsibility to develop, implement and maintain systems that ensure the health and safety of workers.