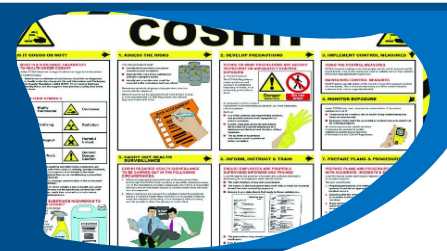


Toolbox Talk

Control of Substances Hazardous to Health (COSHH)



What?

- COSHH stands for Control of Substances Hazardous to Health. Hazardous substances are found on many sites and can be used in or created by the construction process. Hazardous substances need to be treated with caution as they can have some nasty knock on effects
- The Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations (COSHH for short), place duties on employers and employees. They set out a sensible step-by-step approach for the control of hazardous substances and for protecting people exposed to them

Why?

- Substances have to be assessed: categories include very-toxic, toxic, harmful, irritant, corrosive, flammable etc.
- Manufacturers and suppliers must provide information (Manufacturers Safety Data Sheets or MSDS), when asked to enable assessments to be done
- Best control measure is, use something else instead which is less hazardous or non-hazardous
- Last resort control measure is – provide PPE i.e., gloves, goggles, overalls, etc.

J & E Hall International must:

- Introduce control measures appropriate to their own assessment
- Inform and instruct operatives about the risks and provide training on the precautions to be taken. The assessment must be to hand during chemical use, normally in the Site Office.
- Monitor the use of the substance and check that controls are adequate and if necessary arrange medical checks for workers

Employees legally must:

- Use any control measures provided. Use any PPE provided, in the way it was intended, use any washing, changing, eating accommodation provided, in the way it was intended
- Take reasonable care of their own health and safety and that of others. Read labels on packaging and follow the instructions carefully
- Tell their supervisor immediately if you are unsure about a substance or if you have a health problem

Do



- ✓ When purchasing hazardous substances ensure you are sent the MSDS
- ✓ Follow the correct guidelines set out in the COSHH register
- ✓ Always wash at the end of each shift and before eating
- ✓ Read and comply with the information on the hazard data sheet and the instructions on the product label
- ✓ Wear the correct PPE to protect against the hazard
- ✓ Know where washing and first-aid facilities are on site
- ✓ Ensure hazardous substances are put back into a secure location after use and not left out on site

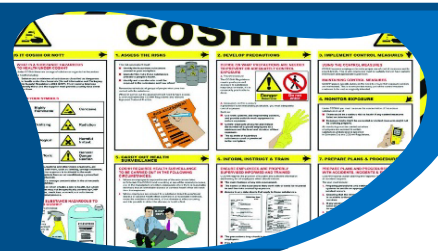
Don't



- ✗ Use a chemical without having the MSDS sheet 'on site'
- ✗ Expose workers to fumes, dust, gas or other dangers from hazardous substances due to your work
- ✗ Eat, drink or smoke when handling substances
- ✗ Store hazardous substances above head height
- ✗ Work without the correct Permit
- ✗ Use hazardous substances that you have not had training to use

Toolbox Talk

Control of Substances Hazardous to Health (COSHH)



Check the label and know the indications of danger

 CORROSIVE	 IRRITANT	 HARMFUL	 TOXIC	 EXTREMELY FLAMMABLE
 OXIDIZING	 EXPLOSIVE	 HIGHLY FLAMMABLE	 DANGEROUS FOR THE ENVIRONMENT	

From 1st June 2017 the following new symbols will appear on all packaging for substances and mixtures. Until then you may see labels from either the above table or those below.

 Corrosive	 Harmful/Irritant	 Toxic	 Respiratory sensitizer/ Carcinogenic/ Mutagenic etc.	 Flammable
 Oxidizing	 Explosive	 Gas Under Pressure	 Hazardous to the Environment	