

## Dealing with Potentially Hazardous Chemicals & Substances

The **FATAL** Incident: A 21 year old man was fatally injured when he was overcome by fumes when dealing with chemicals associated with tyre repair. The investigation is still underway however it is alleged the man was inside or partially inside an earthmover tyre where he was subjected to fumes.

The chemicals associated with tyre repair and any other tyre related activity involving glues, solvents, etc. can be harmful and even fatal if not dealt with correctly. The following minimum standards are required when dealing with tyre-related chemicals & substances.

1. **Understand what you are dealing with - MSDS.** Ensure that ALL of the substances you use on site have the appropriate MSDS information. Store all MSDS information both in the Tyre Bay Office and at the location where the chemicals are stored. Ensure that you understand what the hazardous constituents are, and that you have the appropriate handling techniques and PPE in place at your site.
2. **Understand the tasks that may involve the use of potentially hazardous chemicals.** Develop a list of ALL tasks that you undertake at your site that involve chemicals. i.e. LV tyre repair, install of tyre-tag patches, use of nitrogen, etc. Develop a risk assessment for each task and submit the risk assessments and the overall list to [safety@klinge.com.au](mailto:safety@klinge.com.au)
3. **Chemical Storage.** Store chemicals in approved Cabinets (confirm this with your site's contract representative). The location of your cabinet(s) is also critical - do NOT store your cabinet in small enclosed spaces such as offices, shipping containers, etc. Locate your cabinet in large well-ventilated locations (i.e. under an open-air shelter, or carport-styled structure).
4. **Body Position.** Do NOT place yourself in an area where fumes may accumulate (i.e. in any vessel, inside a horizontal tyre; or at the top/bottom of a vertical tyre).
5. **Position of Tyre.** Ensure that when undertaking tyre repair that the tyre repairs/ or similar activity is conducted at a position on the VERTICAL (or near vertical) tyre equivalent to the 9 o'clock or 3 o'clock position. This will give the fumes an opportunity to dissipate away from the work area.

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6. **PPE.** Ensure that your PPE is in accordance with the MSDS requirements stated on the chemical container. i.e. filtered mask, breathing apparatus, goggles, etc.
7. **Supervision or Buddy-System.** The findings of your above risk assessments will assist with determining how much supervision certain tasks may require. This may vary from site to site.
8. **Electrical Tooling.** Do NOT use electrical tooling near chemical storage areas or where chemicals are being used.
9. **Smoking.** Do NOT smoke near chemical storage areas or where chemicals are being used.

#### Actions for all Klinge Sites:

1. Review this Safety Alert with all personnel, with the usual sign-off. Email sign-off form to [safety@klinge.com.au](mailto:safety@klinge.com.au)
2. Post this Safety Alert on your Safety Notice Board until December 10th 2011.
3. Update your MSDS register and email to [safety@klinge.com.au](mailto:safety@klinge.com.au)
4. Update the list of tasks that involve the use of chemicals and email to [safety@klinge.com.au](mailto:safety@klinge.com.au)
5. Confirm the storage location of your chemicals by way of photograph and email to [safety@klinge.com.au](mailto:safety@klinge.com.au)
6. Please ask your contract representative for a copy of the site's 'Remote Work' procedure (or similar) and email to [safety@klinge.com.au](mailto:safety@klinge.com.au)
7. All supervisors to consider the level of supervision that you may require to provide to tasks undertaken by your work teams. This matter will be discussed further outside of this communication.
8. If you have any concerns over the subject matter contained within this Safety Alert please call myself on the below number.

#### ***Eliminate All Unsafe Acts & Conditions.***

Davin Faux 0419724077

Davin Faux, Manager - Global Risk & Business Improvement  
Safety Alert 83 111104 Chemicals.docx

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