

# Safety Alert

Date: 08/08/2025

## Chemical Safety & Spill Response

The aim of this Safety Alert is to raise awareness of hazards encountered with using, storing, and dealing with spills of chemicals on site and to prevent personal injury / illness when handling chemicals.

#### **CHEMICAL SAFETY**









#### > Chemical Storage:

 Chemicals must be stored correctly as per the SDS, check the SDS are current and valid (Validity of 5 years from issue date) Manufacturer Recommendations, and Chemical Risk Assessment. All chemicals are required to be stored in suitable bunding, cages or storage cabinets.

- It is important that any chemicals which require separation/segregation from other types are stored correctly to prevent ignition/explosion, release of toxic, flammable, or corrosive gases or corrosion of containers.
- Gas bottles are to be turned off and disconnected from equipment when not in use and stored
  in suitable cages. Ensure gas bottles are upright and chained to prevent movement, all empty
  gas bottles should be removed from site regularly by the supplier.
- o Ensure proper ventilation in storage areas to disperse vapours and prevent the accumulation of flammable gases. Ventilation systems should comply with Australian standards.

#### > Safe use of Chemicals:

- Ensure that the correct PPE is used when handling chemicals as identified by the SDS,
  Manufacturer, and Chemical Risk Assessments. Regularly check PPE to ensure that it is fit for
  purpose and always return reusable PPE to the correct storage area clean for the next person
  to use.
- Only use chemicals as stipulated by the Manufacturer and never mix chemicals as misuse has the potential to cause harm.
- All chemicals must be dispensed in correctly labelled chemical containers, **DO NOT** use
  incorrect bottles / unlabelled bottles to dispense chemicals in as this is dangerous and has the
  potential to cause harm. Ensue the correct chemicals are in the designated bottles.

### **SPILL RESPONSE**





- > Obtain a Spill Kit or absorbent material suitable for the type of spill, refer to SDS for PPE requirements.
- Follow the 4 C's:
  - o **Communicate** To other staff working in the area and those in supervisory roles need to be notified, evacuate the area if required. Place wet floor signage up to notify others not to enter area. Only remove the wet floor sign once the floor is completely dry.
  - o **Control the spill -** Leak can be stopped by closing the valve, plugging the container with plug or setting the container in upright possible. Ensure Manual handling technique is followed or seek assistance from other staff when lifting heavy object.
  - o **Contain the spill** Lay the safety barriers around the spill to control the spill. Absorb the spill with the absorbent material in the spill kits.
  - o **Clean up -** Dispose of any absorbent materials and contaminated PPE, if the chemical is hazardous ensure it is disposed of correctly as per requirement, refer to SDS for disposal.
- Remember to clean and return any reusable items back to the spill kit and replace any non-reusable items that were used ASAP.

## MILLENNIUM REFERENCE

- SWMS MILSWMS 02 Commercial Cleaning, MILSWMS 17 Use of Chemicals
- Work Instructions MCWIN Safe Use of Chemicals, MCWIN Safe use of Spill kits, MCWIN Storeroom Housekeeping, MCWIN LPG Safety, MCWIN Fuel & Refuel.

All workers involved in an incident or near miss must report this immediately to Millennium Safety utilising the Hazard & Incident Report Form. Should you require additional clarification or support please contact MIL Safety Team at <a href="mailto:safety@millenniumsg.com">safety@millenniumsg.com</a> for further information.

Employee Assistance Program (EAP) - Assure 1800 808 374 (AUS) 0800 808 374 (NZ)



