

Talk No. 9 – Chemicals at Work

Reason for Talk

Uncontrolled exposure to chemical can have an adverse ill health affect on workers.

Main Points

General

- ◆ A lot of chemicals used in the construction process including mineral oils, mould oils and cement can cause skin problems – which can lead to cancer in extreme cases.
- ◆ Chemicals, including alkalis, acids and chromates (found in cement) can cause ulcers.
- ◆ Constant exposure of the skin to wet cement, e.g. screeding – knelling in wet screed / pouring concrete – concrete getting into boots, can result in very severe concrete burns to the skin which can result in deep scarring and pain.
- ◆ Solvents such as paraffin and white spirit dissolve oils within the skin increasing the chances of infection.

On Site Safety

The presenter should outline / reiterate the site specific requirements of this particular site with regard to;

- ◆ PPE
- ◆ MSDS
- ◆ Method Statements & Risk Assessments
- ◆ Chemical safety training awareness

Questions

What chemicals do you use daily?

What PPE do you or should you wear during the use of the chemical agents?

MAIN POINT FROM THIS SESSION

CHEMICAL'S KNOW WHAT AND HOW TO USE THEM.



