

Talk No: 59 Title: DERMAL EXPOSURE

Introduction: Most chemicals are readily absorbed through the skin and can cause other health effects and/or contribute to the dose absorbed by inhalation of the chemical from the air. This is particularly true for non-volatile chemicals which are relatively toxic and which remain on work surfaces for long periods of time.

Main points:

- Substitution to a less toxic chemical is almost always a good option, unless the alternative chemical is much more volatile.
- Personal protection in the form of chemical protective gloves, an apron, or clothing should be selected.
- Glove breakthrough can occur in considerably less time than expected based upon many factors.

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

Hand contact is possibly the most common cause for dermal exposure. Therefore, proper glove selection is a major means of controlling dermal exposure. Factors that affect glove selection include:

- type of chemical(s) to be handled (or used)
- frequency and duration of chemical contact (often to rarely)
- nature of contact (total immersion, splash, mist, contaminated surfaces)
- concentration of the chemical
- temperature of the chemical
- abrasion, puncture, tear resistance requirements of the job or task
- length to be protected (hand only, forearm, arm)
- dexterity requirements of the job or task
- grip requirements (dry grip, wet grip, oily)
- glove features (e.g. cuff edge, lining, colour (to show contamination))
- thermal protection

size and comfort rprice	equirements			
BEAUTIFUL SKIN BEGINS WITH SKIN CARE?				
Notes:				