



The Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations 2002 (COSHH)

Introduction

Within UK Industry it is estimated that 1.2 million people are suffering from a work-related illness, this resulting in 27.3 million working days lost due to work-related illness and workplace injury (HSE, 2014-15). These cases of ill-health cost many millions of pounds each year to:

- **Industry-** to replace workers, overtime, additional training;
- **Society-** in disability allowances and medicines; and
- **Individuals-**, who may lose their jobs, have to care for others etc.

Many employees work in an industry where the use of chemicals cannot be avoided, therefore it is vitally important that ABM employees understand the risks associated with using cleaning agents and the control measures we can put in place to eliminate or reduce these risks.

COSHH Assessments

If employees are exposed to hazardous substances, the COSHH Regulations require employers to assess the associated risks. ABM COSHH Assessments can be found in your Site File located in the main storage facility (or with your site manager). You must familiarise yourself with the contents and sign to state you have read and understood. Ensure you work in line with the requirements and the manufactures guidance. These must be in date and signed by a competent person, if they have expired please inform your Line Manager immediately.

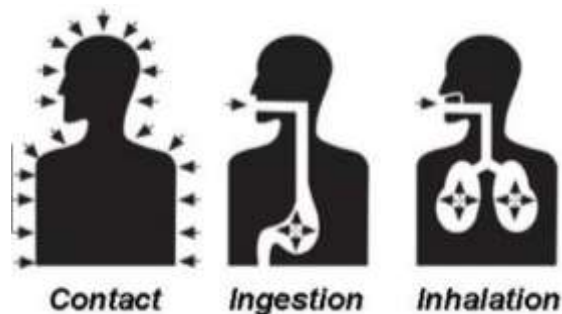
 COSHH ASSESSMENT (4281)	
COSHH Assessment Reference Name of Cleaning Agent: Manufacturer:	TFL/TE QUAD 200 1000 Ltr 00 0000 000 0145 7000 Tel: +44 (0)20 8000 2000 Fax: +44 (0)20 8445 1000 Email: enquiries@abm.co.uk
Where will it be used: What it is used for:	Throughout site Clean and disinfect floors and surfaces
Hazard Symbol:	
Identified Hazards:	Main hazard: These may be irritant components of the site of contact. Eye contact: These may be pain and irritation. The eyes may water, burn, redness, there may be tearing pain. The skin may become itchy. They cause permanent damage. Ingestion: There may be irritation and redness of the mouth and throat. Swallowing can be harmful. Inhalation: There may be irritation of the throat with a feeling of dryness in the throat. High Potency without Controls: High Potency with Controls: For more info, refer to the following: Control Measures:
	• High level of protection systems required when using this product. • Must not be used with other products. • Operative should be trained and fully qualified. • Follow all (any manufacturer's) instructions at all times. • Safety Data Sheet supplied.

PGS/AM Eyes:	Wear eye protection for 15 minutes if splashes occur and protect, get medical attention.
Skin:	Wash skin thoroughly with soap and water, gently drying with a clean absorbent towel. Do not use solvents or abrasives.
Ingestion:	Do not swallow. If you have swallowed, get medical attention.
Inhalation:	Get medical attention if you feel unwell.
PPE:	PPE/PEP: eye protection H Haz 1/2008 a para. 10 (g) (i)
Personal Protective Equipment:	Eye Protection Skin Protection Protective Clothing Cleaning Equipment Protective Footwear Other (as applicable)
Personal Protective Equipment Specified:	
Working Procedures:	Safety signs and symbols. These are to be used to warn the workforce where the product is used. PPE. Protective clothing may be required.
Handling and Storage:	• Store in a cool, dry, well-ventilated area. • Avoid sunlight and rain. • Avoid direct contact with the skin. • Accidents to be reported.
Additional Control Measures:	• Do not allow to enter drainage system, surface or ground water. • Clean up any spillage immediately. • Clean up any spillage immediately.
Is this Assessment suitable for this Activity?	Yes

Routes of entry to the body

We can be exposed to chemicals in the following 4 ways:

- **Inhalation** – this can occur when dusts, mists or fumes are breathed in by the user
- **Ingestion** – when users do not wash their hands after a task and the substance may be transferred to their mouth during eating, drinking or smoking
- **Injection**– entry through a break in the skin, this can happen with dealing with sharp objects such as glass or discarded needles
- **Absorption/Contact** – contact with or through soft tissue such as skin or eyes



Hazard symbols / pictograms

Some chemicals will display a hazard label, you may see the symbols below on this label to highlight the products hazards. But what do they mean?



Harm

Exposure to harmful chemicals can cause injuries and ill-health such as:

- Asthma
- Skin burns
- Skin diseases such as dermatitis
- Cancer
- Eye/sight damage



There can also be a negative impact on the environment

It is imperative to always follow the site specific risk assessments, method statements, COSHH and Manufactures guidance in regards to chemical use.

Material safety data sheet (MSDS)

All substances must be accompanied by a Safety Data Sheet (SDS) supplied by the manufacturer/supplier. This 16 section document will provide the user with basic information about the substance including the constituents, first aid requirements, disposal procedures, work-place exposure limits etc.

When using a substance it is important to refer to the CoSHH Assessment as the Safety Data Sheet will not take into consideration how the substance is being used and will be unable to provide the most appropriate control measures for the work being carried out.

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

PPE should be provided for protection when using chemicals or hazardous materials. COSHH Assessments tell you what PPE is required (BSEN Standard) for the use of each particular chemical. Gloves are often needed but it is sometimes also necessary to wear eye protection (e.g. safety glasses always when decanting) , respiratory protection (e.g. face mask) and/or body protection (e.g. coveralls).



Golden Rules

Make sure you know the location of safety data sheets and CoSHH assessments

Read the CoSHH Assessment and MSDS sheet, always using chemical as per manufactures instructions.

Sign the declaration form to state you have read and understood both COSHH & MSDS

Use the protective clothing as instructed with RAMS and COSHH for task, correlating to BSEN standards

Ensure you understand the dilution rates as per manufactures guidance

Do not mix chemicals as this could cause a dangerous reaction



Never put chemicals into bottles or containers that have other uses or no label

Be sure you know what first aid treatment is required
Store all chemicals safely (5 litre containers on mid-height shelves)

Report any damaged containers or spills to your manager or supervisor, clean up as per safe systems of work

Wash your hands thoroughly with warm water and soap after using chemicals, regardless if you have been wearing gloves or not

Ensure you dispose of chemicals as per manufactures guidance (down foul water drains)

Appropriate chemical spillage clean up should be close by and easily accessible in case of a spillage.



Warning and Safety Signs

Introduction

Employers must provide safety signs if there is a significant risk that can't be avoided or controlled in any other way, such as through safe systems of work or engineering controls. There is no need to provide safety signs if they don't help reduce the risk or if the risk isn't significant. This applies to all places and activities where people are employed.

Employers must, where necessary:

- use road traffic signs in workplaces to regulate road traffic
- maintain the safety signs they provide
- explain unfamiliar signs to their employees and tell them what they need to do when they see safety signs.

Warning and Safety Signs

Specific meanings are assigned to colours as below. The main safety signs can be of the following types:



Prohibition

Round in shape with a black pictogram on white background, red edging and diagonal line. These signs are used to indicate that you **MUST NOT DO** something.



Mandatory

Round in shape with a white pictogram on blue background. These signs are used to indicate that you **MUST DO** something.



Warning

Triangular shape with a black pictogram on yellow background with black edging. These signs are used to indicate a **WARNING** of danger (hazard).



Safe Condition

Rectangular or square shape with a white pictogram on green background. These signs generally indicate **SAFETY** or **NO DANGER**.

Key Points to consider are:

- Obey all site safety signs, failure to do so will be treated seriously
- Check for safety signs before entering any premises or new area, obey the premises rules
- Ensure you wear PPE identified as mandatory on the premises
- Familiarise yourself with Fire Safety and Emergency Exit signage.
- Remember signs are there for you to obey and inform others so that they can obey
- Failure to obey a sign posted in the interests of health and safety is a criminal offence
- Always abide by the Site Induction and safety rules such as Emergency access/ egress routes, roll call points, designated first aiders and Mandatory signage.