



TEXAS OIL & GAS ASSOCIATION SAFETY TALKS

an initiative of the **TXOGA** Workers' Compensation Safety Group

Handling Hazardous Materials

What this Safety Talk Covers:

The “Dos” and “Don’ts” of safely handling and working with hazardous materials at a worksite.

Discussion Notes:

Discuss the outcomes of the “Dos” and “Don’ts.”

- Do**
- ✓ Verify the Safety Data Sheet (SDS) before handling any chemical or drilling fluid. You may be working with everything from corrosion inhibitors to hydrogen sulfide scavengers. Know what you're dealing with before you touch it.
 - ✓ Use the correct Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for the specific material you're handling.
 - ✓ Properly ground and bond all containers when transferring flammable liquids. This includes fuel trucks, frac tanks, and chemical totes. Static electricity can ignite hydrocarbon vapors in seconds at a well site or tank battery.
 - ✓ Test the atmosphere before entering any confined space or tank. Use a calibrated four-gas monitor every single time.
 - ✓ Inspect all hoses, connections, and transfer equipment before use. Look for wear, cracks, and proper ratings.
 - ✓ Know your emergency response procedures and the location of safety equipment.
- Don't**
- ✗ Rely on old labels or word-of-mouth to identify chemicals. If you can't positively identify a substance with proper documentation, don't handle it.
 - ✗ Mix chemicals unless you're specifically trained and authorized to do so. Incompatible materials can react violently.
 - ✗ Bypass or remove safety features on chemical injection systems or pumps.
 - ✗ Store incompatible materials together. Keep oxidizers away from flammables, acids separated from bases, and pay attention to what's sitting next to what in your chemical storage area or on your service rig.
 - ✗ Enter H₂S zones or sour gas areas without proper training and monitoring equipment.
 - ✗ Take shortcuts when handling produced water or tank bottoms. These materials contain NORM (Naturally Occurring Radioactive Material), benzene, and hazardous chemicals that build up over time. Follow your company's handling and disposal procedures exactly.



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Employee Quiz Handling Hazardous Materials

Employee Name: _____

Circle the correct answer below

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>1. Before handling any chemical or drilling fluid in the oilfield, you should always:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Verify the SDS (Safety Data Sheet)b. Ask your supervisor if it's safec. Wear standard work glovesd. Check if the container is labeled <p>2. When transferring flammable liquids at a well site or tank battery, what is essential to prevent ignition from static electricity?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Work quickly to minimize exposure timeb. Only transfer during daylight hoursc. Properly ground and bond all containersd. Keep a fire extinguisher nearby <p>3. What should you use to test the atmosphere before entering a confined space or tank in the oilfield?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Your sense of smellb. A calibrated four-gas monitorc. A candle or flame testd. Visual inspection only | <p>4. When inspecting hoses and connections, you should look for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Cracksb. Wearc. Proper ratingsd. All of the above <p>5. It is acceptable to mix chemicals if you have at least 5 years of oilfield experience.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Trueb. False |
|---|---|

Training record: Date: _____ Jobsite/Facility: _____
 Trainer: _____ Title: _____

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