

Responding to a Chemical Spill



A Quick Response Is Important...

- ◆ Report spills immediately.
- ◆ Do not touch or breathe fumes from the spill.
- ◆ If it is safe to do so and you know the proper procedure, clean up the spill.
- ◆ For larger spills of hazardous chemicals, get everyone out of the area.

A trained spill response team will manage the spill using appropriate protective clothing, chemical-resistant tools and absorbent materials.

After the Spill...

- ◆ Be sure clothing and equipment involved in the spill or cleanup are decontaminated.
- ◆ Learn what can be done to prevent future spills.

To Prevent Spills...

- ◆ Inspect containers for leaks, corrosion or worn seals.
- ◆ Close containers after use.
- ◆ Learn how to dispose of chemicals you no longer need, and dispose of them promptly.
- ◆ Keep your work area clean and orderly.

Be Prepared for Emergencies in Case a Spill Does Happen...

- ◆ Know your company's emergency response plan, evacuation routes and your assigned role in case of a spill.
- ◆ Post emergency phone numbers in your area.
- ◆ Read the labels and MSDSs for chemicals you use, so you will know what hazards a spill might cause and what procedures you should follow for each type of spill.