

Great Western Painting

Hazardous Waste Operations / Resource Conservation Recovery Act

HAZWOPER

Hazardous waste operations and emergency response. 1910.120

HAZWOPER is an acronym for: Hazardous waste operations and emergency response.

When our employees are working at a facility that is involved in clean-up operations at one of their sites covered by the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act of 1976 (RCRA), that facility will have developed, or modified their existing safety program, to identify, evaluate and control safety and health hazards address topics covered in 29 CFR 1910.120.

Further, the facility for whom we are working, as subcontractors, will provide us a copy of their program and we will incorporate the portions that address hazardous waste operations into our comprehensive safety program.

Our representatives will be informed of the site emergency response procedures and any potential fire, explosion, health, safety or other hazards of the hazardous waste operation that have been identified by the employer's information program.

Item that will be address in the safety program include:

1. An organizational structure.
 - a. A general supervisor who has the responsibility and authority to direct all hazardous waste operations.
 - b. A site safety and health supervisor who has the responsibility and authority to develop and implement the site safety and health plan and verify compliance.
 - c. All other personnel needed for hazardous waste site operations and emergency response and their general functions and responsibilities.
 - d. The lines of authority, responsibility, and communication.
- 2, A comprehensive workplan.
 - a. This plan will address the tasks and objectives of the site operations and the logistics and resources required to reach those tasks and objectives.

3. A site-specific safety and health plan.
 - a. This plan will address the safety and health hazards of each phase of the site operation and include the requirements and procedures for employee protection.

Note: This need not repeat the employer's standard operating procedures required in paragraph (b)(1)(ii)(F) of 29 CFR 1910.

4. The safety and health training program.
5. The medical surveillance program.
6. The employer's standard operating procedures for safety and health.
7. Any necessary interface between general program and site specific activities.

Training:

All employees on site exposed to hazardous substances, health hazards, or safety hazards must receive training to a level required by their job function and responsibility before they are permitted to engage in hazardous waste operations.

Training will include the names of personnel and alternates responsible for site safety and health; the safety, health and other hazards present on the site; the use of PPE; the work practices to minimize risks from hazards.

Further, training will address recognition of symptoms and signs which might indicate overexposure to hazards as part of medical surveillance.

Medical Surveillance:

All employees who may be exposed to hazardous substances at or above the established PEL and all employees who wear a respirator for 30 days or more a year must be included in a medical surveillance program. This program will be provided at **no cost** to the affected employee.

Engineering controls, work practices and PPE:

Engineering controls and work practices, when feasible, will be utilized to reduce employee exposure to or below the PEL for substances regulated by 29 CFR Part 1910.

Examples of feasible engineering controls would include the use of pressurized cabs or control booths on equipment, and/or the use of remotely operated material handling equipment.

Examples of feasible work practices would include removing all non-essential employees from potential exposure during opening of drums, wetting down dusty operations and locating employees upwind of possible hazards.

Whenever engineering controls and work practices are not feasible, or not required, any reasonable combination of engineering controls, work practices and PPE shall be used to reduce and maintain to or below the PEL.

Air Monitoring:

Air monitoring will be used to determining the types of hazardous substances present and their levels. This will also aid in the determination of proper respiratory (and other PPE) requirements.

Upon initial entry, representative air monitoring will be conducted to identify any IDLH condition, exposure over the PEL, exposure over a radioactive material's dose limits or other dangerous condition such as the presence of flammable atmospheres, oxygen-deficient environments.

Periodic monitoring shall be conducted when the possibility of an IDLH condition or flammable atmosphere has developed or when there is indication that exposures may have risen over the PEL.

Decontamination procedures.

Through monitoring, the site safety and health supervisor will ensure that the standard operating procedures for decontamination are understood by all employees and that they are effective in their use. If ineffective, they will be re-written to fulfill their function.

The decontamination procedures must minimize employee contact to hazardous substances both on their bodies and on the equipment.

All employees leaving a contaminated area must be decontaminated.

All contaminated clothing and equipment leaving a contaminated area must be decontaminated or bagged (sealed), tagged and properly disposed of.

Decontamination shall be performed in geographical areas that will minimize the exposure of uncontaminated employees or equipment to contaminated employees or equipment.

All equipment and solvents used for decontamination shall be decontaminated or disposed of properly.

Protective clothing and equipment shall be decontaminated, cleaned, laundered, maintained or replaced as needed to maintain their effectiveness.

Employees whose non-impermeable clothing becomes wetted with hazardous substances shall immediately remove that clothing and proceed to shower.

The clothing shall be disposed of or decontaminated before it is removed from the work zone. Disposal will be in a sealed bag tagged with identification of the hazardous substance.

Unauthorized employees are not allowed in the change rooms not may they remove protective clothing or equipment from change rooms.

If the sealed bags or contaminated materials are not taken to a dump that accepts these hazardous materials and, instead they are taken to a cleaning establishments that decontaminate protective clothing or equipment, that establishment will be informed of the potentially harmful effects of exposures to hazardous substances.

Where the decontamination procedure indicates a need for regular showers and change rooms outside of a contaminated area, they shall be provided and meet the requirements of 29 CFR 1910.141. If temperature conditions prevent the effective use of water, then other effective means for cleansing shall be entered in our standard operating procedures and followed.

Where the decontamination procedure indicates a need for regular showers and change rooms outside of a contaminated area, they shall be provided and meet the requirements of 29 CFR 1910.141. From a hazardous waste standpoint, this means that the change rooms must have storage facilities for street clothes and separate storage facilities for (contaminated) protective clothing.

If temperature conditions prevent the effective use of water, then other effective means for cleansing shall be provided and used.