

Handling Chemicals Safely

- All chemicals should be clearly marked
- Be aware of the storage requirements of each type
- Take extreme care when mixing chemicals

- Keep away from heat and flames
- Avoid oral contact of any kind
- Never inhale
- Avoid contact with skin and eyes



Chemical Checklist

- Read and understand the label before opening any container
- Double-check that the chemical you are opening is the one required
- Consider the hazards, including violent reactions between chemicals
- Open container carefully in a well ventilated area

- Always wear appropriate protective clothing
- Take extreme care whilst using hazardous chemicals
- Use method which reduces risk of inhalation, ingestion or contact with skin, eyes and clothing
- Never eat, drink or smoke whilst handling chemicals
- Always seal container tightly after use



Know your CoSHH and CHIP Warning Symbols



Explosive. A substance which under defined test conditions will detonate, quickly decompose or upon heating explode when properly confined.



Toxic. A substance which if it is inhaled, ingested or allowed to penetrate the skin, may involve serious or chronic health risks and even death.



Oxidizing. A substance which gives rise to a highly exothermic reaction when in contact with other substances, particularly flammable substances.



Very Toxic. A substance which if it is inhaled, ingested or allowed to penetrate the skin, may involve extremely serious or chronic health risks and even death.



Flammable. A substance which is a liquid having a flash point equal to or greater than 21 degrees Celsius and less than or equal to 35 degrees Celsius.



Hazardous. A substance which if it is inhaled, ingested or allowed to penetrate the skin, may involve limited health risks.



Highly Flammable. A substance either solid or gaseous which may readily catch fire in contact with air without any application of energy or is a liquid having a flash point below 21 degrees Celsius.



Irritant. A non-corrosive substance which, through immediate, prolonged or repeated contact with skin, can cause inflammation.



Extremely Flammable. A liquid having a flash point of less than 0 degrees Celsius and a boiling point of less than or equal to 35 degrees Celsius.



Corrosive. A substance which may on contact with living tissue destroy it.



Hazardous to the environment.