



DIESEL FUEL

Diesel is commonly used in construction machinery, industrial machinery and generators. Lost wages and overtime.

Primary concerns associated with diesel fuel:

Flammability:

- DO NOT SMOKE AROUND DIESEL FUEL.

Skin exposure:

- If the fuel is not cleaned off, it will absorb into the skin and cause symptoms identical to inhalation.

Inhalation:

- If diesel vapours are inhaled it can cause dizziness, nausea, and increased blood pressure, among other symptoms.
- When fuelling diesel-powered vehicles or machinery do so in a well-ventilated area.
- If vehicles must be used indoors or in enclosed spaces, extra ventilation should be provided to remove diesel exhaust fumes.
- Wear gloves when working with diesel! Viton gloves are most effective in protecting against diesel exposure.
- Do not use vinyl or butyl rubber gloves with diesel, as they offer no protection.

Questions to Generate Discussion.

- Diesel fuel is not as flammable as other fuels. Why should it be treated with the same caution as highly flammable materials?
- Why should we make efforts to try and protect our skin when working with diesel fuel?
- What areas of this workplace represent the greatest concern in terms of potential exposure to diesel exhaust fumes?
- What can you do to help minimise diesel exposure in the workplace?