VOL. XXV NO. 7, July 2012

800.554.8265
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INSIGHTS



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Irreconcilable Differences
Storing incompatible chemicals

If you store or move containers of hazardous chemicals in your job, you need to be aware of the dangers of incompatible chemicals – those chemicals that can react together to create toxic smoke, gas, heat, fire, or explosion.

Oxidizers and Flammables: Fires need oxygen to burn; that's why blowing air on a fire will make it burn hotter and why smothering a fire will put it out. Because oxidizers are chemicals that give off a great deal of oxygen in a hurry, you must take special precautions to keep them away from flammable and combustible materials. Never store oxidizers with combustible materials or other oxidizers, and store large quantities of oxidizers in a separate room that is fire-protected.

Acids and Bases: Acids and bases are chemical opposites that react violently with each other, often producing heat, explosions, or toxic gases. Many acids are also oxidizers and can create fires if they react with combustible materials. Bases such as lye produce intense heat when in contact with water. Store acids and bases in separate areas in clearly labeled containers.



Conquer Clutter in Your Office

Go electronic. Self-adhesive notes are wonderful, but they pile up and fall off onto the floor or into other files. Train yourself to keep notes electronically, such as using the Microsoft Outlook Tasks feature.

Combine functions. Perform an office-form audit. Review the forms your office uses for any that can be discontinued, shortened, or merged.

If multiple small machines perform similar functions, replace them with an all-in-one printer/scanner/fax/copier.

THINKING GREEN

You Can Help

Make "green" choices that will affect not only your own health, but the health of the planet.

Support food recovery programs. Each year, roughly a third of all food produced for human consumption gets lost or wasted, including 34 million tons in the United States. Grocery stores, bakeries, and other food providers throw away tons of food daily that is perfectly edible but is cosmetically imperfect or has passed its expiration date. In response, food recovery programs run by homes, shelters or food banks collect this food and use it to provide meals for the hungry. Encourage your local restaurants and grocery stores to partner with food rescue organizations.

Local is lovely. Instead of relying exclusively on large supermarkets, consider farmers markets and local farms for your produce, eggs, dairy, and meat. Buying other products from local businesses also may be more sustainable because these businesses often have smaller environmental footprints.

Pump up those tires and go for a bike ride. Carpooling or using public transportation is a great green move, but don't forget the mode of transportation that also boosts your health – biking. Many cities and towns are incorporating bike lanes and trails, making it easier and safer to use your bike for transportation and recreation.

Evaluate Your PPE Program

You invest a lot of time, effort, and money in your personal protective equipment (PPE) program, so you want to be sure you're meeting OSHA's expectations.

OSHA's PPE compliance directive, 29 CFR Part 1910, Subpart I, Enforcement Guidance for Personal Protective Equipment in General Industry (CPL 02-01-050), establishes OSHA's general enforcement and guidance policy for its PPE standards. It instructs OSHA enforcement personnel on both the agency's interpretations of those standards and the procedures for enforcing them. You can review the directive for insight on how compliance officers will evaluate your PPE program.

OSHA's compliance directive is available on their Web site at www.osha.gov/OshDoc/Directive_pdf/CPL_02-01-050.pdf

ERG 2012: Expect to See Changes

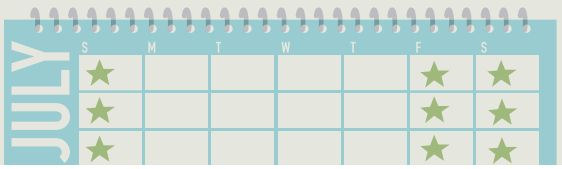
The 2012 edition of the *Emergency Response Guidebook* is expected to be available soon. Changes include:

- Various charts, phone numbers, and general guidance information have been expanded and/or revised.
- Addition of all new dangerous goods listed.
- Some emergency response guidelines will get a tune-up.
- Six toxic-by-inhalation gases will be added in a new Table 3.

For more information, click on jjkeller.com/erg

Once in a Lifetime

This year (2012) July has five Fridays, five Saturdays, and five Sundays. It only happens once every 823 years, so enjoy!



Vanishing

In the next half-century many fixtures of everyday life will go the way of the gramophone, labeled "quaint" and relegated to museums – if not the trash. What do futurists predict will make Americans nostalgic in 50 years?

- **Home phones –** As these 20th century icons gather dust, people will drop their land-line plans and opt for cell-only. Eventually we'll be talking on mini-computers the size of cellphones, and basic telephones will go the way of the Dodo.
- **Physical media –** Goodbye CDs, DVDs, Blu-Rays, thumb drives, video games discs – and their players. Electronic entertainment will be bought and played directly from the Internet.
- **Glove box road maps –** No need for these when map apps offer directions, traffic info, drive-time estimates, and an arrow to the nearest Starbucks.
- **Analog Clocks –** Our cellphones, synched perfectly to satellites, never forget to spring forward. The traditional dial clock and its mini-me, the wristwatch, will, alas, become retro novelties.
- **Passwords –** Instead of you having to remember (and regularly update) a combination of letters and numbers, your device will remember you. Facial biometric software will enable you to simply look at your cellphone or tablet – and unlock it.



SOAPBOX

A pessimist is a person who has had to listen to too many optimists.

Middle age is when you've met so many people that every new person you meet reminds you of someone else.
– Ogden Nash

Self-control is not a problem in the future. It's only a problem now when the chocolate is next to us.

Don't worry about avoiding temptation. As you grow older it will avoid you.

Food is an important part of a balanced diet.

Get your facts first, then you can distort them as you please.
– Mark Twain

In comic strips, the person on the left always speaks first.

Money won't buy happiness, but it will pay the salaries of a large research staff to study the problem.

Best way to get rid of kitchen odors: Eat out.

ChemStation®

INSIGHTS Editor
ChemStation
3400 Encrete Lane
Dayton, OH 45439

kdunlap@chemstation.com

www.chemstation.com

By the Numbers



Gallons of soap delivered:
188,066,324 since 1984



Empty drums not in landfills:
3,237,570 since 1984