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INSIGHTS

ChemStation



A Better Option

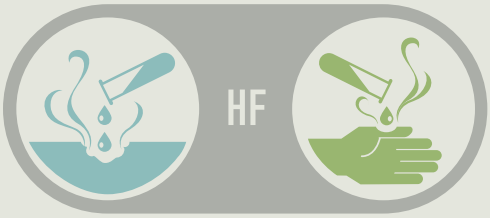
We're talking about hydrofluoric (HF) acid. Hydrofluoric acid is one of the most dangerous chemicals known to mankind…it only takes one teaspoon to kill a person.

Go online, type in "hydrofluoric acid" and you will find unbelievable horror stories about injuries and death caused by this highly regulated toxic chemical. Over the years, trade magazines have published a flood of articles regarding the dangers posed by the use of HF. The U.S. Consumer Products Safety Commission and the Occupational Safety and Health Administration have documented dozens of deaths and injuries attributed to HF.

One highly publicized case involved an 18-year-old girl who had a number of fingers amputated after HF dripped from a supply line onto her hand. A 55-year-old man died when a pump and supply hose broke while he was mixing automobile wheel cleaner.

There are better options and ChemStation can help you find a safer alternative for your vehicle washing, wheel cleaning, and other industrial cleaning challenges. While the cost of HF acid cleaning solutions are sometimes less expensive than safer soap options, the costs (personal protective equipment for handling the toxin) add up to outweigh the savings…not to mention the safety factor for your employees.

If you're looking for a safer solution to your industrial cleaning problems, give your local ChemStation representative a call. We have safer alternatives.



THINKING GREEN

Did you know?

- Texans dump enough trash every two weeks to fill the Astrodome.
- In the U.S., 8 out of 10 people are willing to separate household trash for recycling.
- Yard debris accounts for approximately 31 million tons of the nation's municipal solid waste.
- Recycling waste materials supports about six times as many waste-related jobs as there would be if the same materials were treated as trash.
- American consumers and industry throw away enough aluminum in a year to rebuild our entire airplane commercial fleet every three months.
- The recycling industry accounts for more than 20,000 private-sector jobs in Texas in the processing and end-market facilities adding $2.8 billion to the Texas economy annually.
- Americans throw away enough office and writing paper annually to build a wall 12 feet high stretching from Los Angeles to New York.
- The average baby will use about 10,000 diapers before toilet training. An estimated one billion trees a year are required to produce disposable diapers.

Putting the Fire Out

A, B, C, or D…which one do you use?

Class A: will put out fires in ordinary combustibles, such as wood and paper. The numerical rating for this class of fire extinguisher refers to the amount of water the fire extinguisher holds and the amount of fire it will extinguish.

Class B: should be used on fires involving flammable liquids, such as grease, gasoline, oil, etc. The numerical rating for this class of fire extinguisher states the approximate number of square feet of a flammable liquid fire that a nonexpert person can expect to extinguish.

Class C: is suitable for use on electrically energized fires. This class of fire extinguishers does not have a numerical rating. The presence of the letter "C" indicates that the extinguishing agent is nonconductive.

Class D: is designed for use on flammable metals and are often specific for the type of metal in question. These extinguishers generally have no rating nor are they given a multi-purpose rating for use on other types of fires.



Hand Protection

With all the gloves available in today's specialized world, how do you select the right glove to fit the job? Quite simply, you ask the right questions of your glove supplier to ensure you get the best gloves for safety as well as performance. With all the different types available, you can tell that gloves are not just a one-size-fits-all fix to hand protection. It takes an understanding of the application that the worker is doing when the glove is worn to even begin to select the right glove. Using the right glove for the task is worth the investment compared to the potential alternative – hand injuries.

Golfer's Day

April 10 is Golfer's Day. Some avid golfers might suggest that any and every day is Golfer's Day. But, on this day, it's official. Golfer's day is an opportunity to be thankful that someone invented this addicting, yet relaxing hobby.

No one seems to know when it was established or why. However, it did cause someone to come up with the following "conversations."

Golfer: "I think I'm going to drown myself in that water hazard."
Caddy: "Do you think you can keep your head down that long?"

Golfer: "I'd move heaven and earth to break 100 on this course."
Caddy: "Try heaven – you've already moved most of the earth."

Golfer: "You've got to be the world's worst caddy."
Caddy: "I don't think so. That would be too much of a coincidence."

Golfer: "Please stop checking your watch all the time. It's a terrible distraction."
Caddy: "It's not a watch – it's a compass."

Golfer: "Do you think I can get there with a 5 iron?"
Caddy: "Eventually."

Golfer: "How do you like my game?"
Caddy: "Very good, but personally I prefer golf."

Golfer: "That can't be my ball, it's too old."
Caddy: "It's been a long time since we teed off."



SOAPBOX

Percussive maintenance: Hitting a computer or other electronic device in an attempt to get it to work.

Business conventions are important because they demonstrate how many people a company can operate without.

You know you're grown up when you make plans to watch the Weather Channel.

There is no worse feeling than that millisecond you're sure you are going to die after leaning your chair back a little too far.

Excellence is not a skill…it's an attitude.

If it weren't for the fact that the TV set and the refrigerator are so far apart, some of us wouldn't get any exercise at all.

Gentleman, n. Somebody who knows how to play the trombone, but doesn't.

Education is what you get when you read the fine print; experience is what you get when you don't.

Life, unlike algebra, does not have the answers to the odd problems in the back of the book.

ChemStation®

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By the Numbers



Gallons of soap delivered:
152,912,316 since 1984



Empty drums not in landfills:
2,780,224 since 1984