ChemStation®

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INSIGHTS

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What Can We Do For You?



It doesn't stop with the sale. ChemStation account representatives and service technicians are there to help you after the sale, too. Read on…

One of our customers grinds and washes powdered metal parts. Recently, the packing material these parts are shipped in changed. The residue from the new packing reacted to the fluid used in the grinding process and parts began to rust. It took a while, but with the assistance of the account representative and ChemStation's chemists, the problem was solved.

Employees at a food processing plant were required to wear some uncomfortable and cumbersome safety gear when using our product to clean the floors. The temperature in the plant reached 140°F. A new floor scrubbing product with a pH of less than 9.0 and a health rating of 1 was created. It performed just as well and got those employees out of their hazmat suits.

Another customer was having a problem with bacterial growth in their three-step ultrasonic parts washer. The problem was not only costly, but smelly! Their ChemStation account representative and a team of chemists and technical support folks from headquarters soon had them back on top with all three stages working fine and smelling great!

So, what can we do for you? ■

Emergency Exits

Do your employees know where all the emergency exits are in case their first choice is too crowded? Being properly prepared could keep your employees safe during an emergency.

Emergency Exit Routes 101

An exit route is a continuous and unobstructed path of exit travel from any point within a workplace to a place of safety. An exit route consists of three parts:

Exit access – portion of an exit route that leads to an exit.

Exit – portion of an exit route that is generally separated from other areas to provide a protected way of travel to the exit discharge.

Exit discharge – part of the exit route that leads directly outside or to a street, walkway, refuge area, public way, or open space with access to the outside.



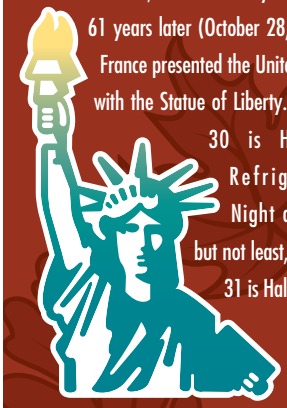
How many exits?

Normally at least two exit routes to permit prompt evacuation of employees and other building occupants during an emergency. More than two exits are required, however, if the number of employees, size of the building, or arrangement of the workplace will not allow employees to evacuate safely.

For more information visit www.osha.gov ■

October…Now and Then

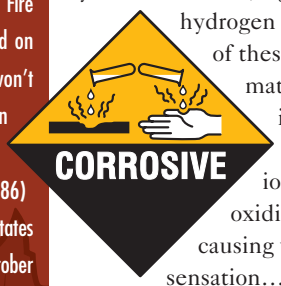
October's monthly observances include Celebrate Sun Dried Tomatoes Month, National Book Month, and National Roller Skating Month. If a month-full of anything is too much for you, try the weekly celebrations. October 1-7 is Get Organized Week, National Carry A Tune Week, and Squirrel Appreciation Week. Fire Prevention Week is recognized during the second week of October. From October 22-28 you can jump on the band-wagon and Give Wildlife a Break Week. On October 1, 1971, Walt Disney World opened in Orlando, FL. The 1st of October is also Fire Pup Day. Mad Hatter Day is celebrated on October 6 (see article). Most of you won't remember, but the Erie Canal opened on October 26, 1825. Two days and 61 years later (October 28, 1886) France presented the United States with the Statue of Liberty. October 30 is Haunted Refrigerator Night and last but not least, October 31 is Halloween.



Ouch! That Burns

Most of you have seen the warning signs and even some have experienced its unforgiving nature: Corrosive Materials. What is really going on though? Let's talk chemicals!

A corrosive chemical causes visible destruction of, or irreversible alterations in living tissue by chemical action at the site of contact. Yeah, so what? You've heard this before but why does it burn? Let's look at an example like sodium hydroxide, chemically written as NaOH. Sodium hydroxide separates in water to sodium cations (positively charged sodium atoms: NA^+) and hydroxide anions (negatively charged oxygen and hydrogen atoms: OH^-). The separation of these ions creates very reactive materials, especially when they interact with other surfaces or substances; i.e., skin. The ions, mainly OH^- will begin to oxidize or deteriorate your skin causing your body to signal a burning sensation…ouch!



Corrosive materials pose serious immediate risk to skin, tissues, eyes, and other parts of the body. Consult the MSDS for emergency first aid procedures. ■

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Mad Hatter Day



Mad Hatter Day is October 6…a day to celebrate silliness. The date was chosen from the illustrations by John Tenniel in "Alice's Adventures in Wonderland," wherein the Mad Hatter is always seen wearing a hat bearing a slip of paper with the notation, "In this style 10/6."

It began in Boulder, CO, in 1986 among some computer folk who had nothing better to do. Mad Hatter Day was immediately recognized as valuable because they caused less damage than if they'd been doing their jobs. It was announced that first year on computer networks. In1987 it gained minor local recognition. In 1988 it was first recognized as an official holiday by an area business, and also received its first national press coverage by news services (who are always desperate for an unlikely story). It is almost certain that the national election also gave Mad Hatter Day a good boost in 1988.

Detailed plans for this year's Mad Hatter Day observance will, of course, be announced on October 7. We have found that plans made after the fact are more accurate and much easier to have fulfilled. Or, as the Red Queen said, "sentence first, then the verdict." ■



Send your comments to:

Insights Editor, ChemStation, 3400 Encrete Lane, Dayton OH 45439
Email: kdunlap@chemstation.com

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Soapbox

These days, there are only five basic food groups…canned, frozen, pizza, fast, and carry-out.

Never argue with a fool…people may not be able to tell you apart.

Time is what keeps everything from happening at once.

Taking everything with a grain of salt may actually lower your blood pressure.

If at first you don't succeed, you're running about average.

The cost of lumber is so high these days, it's really hard to believe it grows on trees.

How do you know when it's time to tune your bagpipes?

If you have tried to do something and failed; you're better off than if you did nothing and succeeded.

Clock, n. A small mechanical device to wake up people who have no children.

When you don't know what you're doing, do it neatly.

There's a fine line between courage and foolishness. Too bad the "fine line" isn't a brick wall.

Ever feel like you're diagonally parked in a parallel universe?

The nice thing about standards is there are so many to choose from.

To some people, multitasking is the ability to screw several things up at once.

Always, always accept good advice – as long as it doesn't interfere with your original plans.

Regulations grow at about the same rate as weeds.

Did you ever notice that there are no recipes at all for leftover lobster?