VOL. XXI NO. 11, NOVEMBER 2009

800.554.8265
chemstation.com

INSIGHTS

ChemStation



Safety First!

How is the ChemStation System the safest solution to your industrial cleaning challenges? We believe safety comes first – in terms of employee health as well as the preservation of your machinery, floors, and tools. That's why we guarantee the quality of our products and perform tests on every batch of product manufactured.

All of our equipment is designed with safe proportioning and dispensing in mind. No drum handling reduces employee accidents and provides less exposure to Workers' Compensation claims. In addition, ChemStation actively supports and participates in OSHA Right-to-Know seminars and MSDS training. We take our commitment to safety very seriously, and are continually improving our processes that impact workplace safety.



What's in Yours?

A well-stocked first aid cabinet makes OSHA happy and makes business sense. What your first aid cabinet should contain depends on your workplace.

There is no "one-size-fits-all" answer to choosing the right first aid supplies for your unique needs. A variety of factors come into play such as the size of your workplace, the number of employees, and the type of work they do.

By assessing the specific needs of your workplace, you can ensure that reasonably anticipated supplies are available. And, your workplace first aid supplies are only as good as they are effectively maintained. First aid supplies need to be replenished and updated on a regular basis.

THINKING GREEN

It's Not Easy Being Green

How do we decide which product or action is healthier or more environmentally friendly? Some choices are clear; others are more murky.

Compact fluorescent light bulbs v. incandescent. CFLs last longer and use less energy, but also are more expensive and contain toxic mercury. But mercury also is a byproduct of burning coal. And the extra electricity needed to power incandescent bulbs often comes from coal-fired power plants. The toxin, which can cause neurological damage in children, can get into the food chain after settling into lakes and streams.

Organic v. conventionally grown food. It's true that organic food could be better for your health and the ecosystem. But if it is shipped from thousands of miles away, there is an environmental tradeoff because of the pollution caused by trucks traveling cross-country.

Pesticides v. doing nothing. Bugs in the house aren't just creepy and crawly. In the case of cockroaches, they can cause asthma in children. But spraying pesticides isn't great for little lungs, either. A better alternative is using baits, but be careful that children and pets don't come in contact with the baits.

Are You in Compliance?

OSHA requires that employers do a hazard assessment and then select the most appropriate PPE. In §1910.132(d)(1) it says:

The employer shall assess the workplace to determine if hazards are present, or are likely to be present, which necessitate the use of personal protective equipment (PPE). If such hazards are present, or likely to be present, the employer shall:

- Select, and have each affected employee use, the types of PPE that will protect the affected employee from the hazards identified in the hazard assessment;
- Communicate selection decisions to each affected employee; and,
- Select PPE that properly fits each affected employee.

Pay Attention... Keep Yourself Safe

Many of the accidents that occur in the workplace are preventable, as long as people pay attention to the tasks they're performing.

- **Concentrate before reaching for something**. If you think about what you're about to do ahead of time, you'll likely pay more attention to how you'll do it. Concentrating on a task helps you use the correct form in order to avoid strain or injury.
- **Focus on your hands**. Specifically, focus on your ring and pinky fingers when you reach for something or carry heavy objects. Most people use their thumb and index finger, but the ring and pinky fingers are actually stronger and more powerful.



Cliché Day

Not to beat around the bush about it, as hard as this fact may be to swallow, November 3 is National Cliché Day. No, we're not yanking your chain. We wouldn't pull your leg about something as serious as National Cliché Day.

A cliché is defined as a *trite expression or idea*. "Trite" is defined as *overused and commonplace; lacking interest or originality*. So there you have it: Clear as mud. But is lack of interest or originality really such a bad thing?

Marcus Jones has a least-favorite cliché – it's not the heat, it's the humidity. No kidding? The humidity? Hot is hot, it doesn't matter what's causing it. I don't feel a darn bit cooler just because I've been informed by some meteorological genius that it's the humidity making me hot, not the heat."

Kelly Wood likes clichés. One of his favorite is a Bruce Springsteen tune that features several clichés, including, "every cloud has a silver lining," "the early bird gets the worm," "a winner never quits and a quitter never wins," "and Rome wasn't built in a day." Clichés are overused for a reason: They work, and they tend to be true. Rome really wasn't built in a day.

And there you have it: the long and the short of clichés. Hopefully, by the time National Cliché Day is over, a good time will have been had by all.



SOAPBOX

Papyromania – compulsive accumulation of papers.

Papyrophobia – abnormal desire for a clean desk.

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

The nicest thing about the future is that it always starts shortly.

Do you realize that in about 40 years we'll have thousands of old men and old ladies running around with tattoos? And, rap music will be the Golden Oldies!

You know you're grown up when you hear your favorite song on the elevator.

Be careful reading the fine print. There's no way you're going to like it.

The word "upset" came into use for a surprise outcome when a horse named Upset became the first to ever beat the legendary Man O' War.

No one has more driving ambition than the boy who wants to buy a car.

ChemStation®

INSIGHTS Editor
ChemStation
3400 Encrete Lane
Dayton, OH 45439

kdunlap@chemstation.com

www.chemstation.com

By the Numbers



Gallons of soap delivered:
150,717,138 since 1984



Empty drums not in landfills:
2,740,312 since 1984