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All Sealants, Inc.

Select Edition

Week of 7/5/2021

July 7

Breathing Easy

Respirators are among the many important pieces of personal protective equipment used at a construction site. A respirator is a safety device that covers at least your nose and mouth; it protects you against air that contains harmful contaminants and allows you to breathe safely in these hazardous environments. Some of the operations around a construction site that require the use of respirators include sand blasting, paint application and removal, industrial cleaning, certain welding operations, coating the insides of vessels, and some of the work done in confined spaces.

When you choose, use, and maintain your respirator properly, you can protect yourself from respiratory hazards including: particles and dust containing silica or lead; vapors and gases like carbon monoxide; biological agents such as mold spores and viruses; physical agents including radioactive particles; and atmospheres that are Immediately Dangerous to Life or Health (IDLH) such as environments that are oxygen deficient.

If the duties you perform involve the use of a respirator, your employer is required to establish and implement a written respiratory protection program with worksite-specific procedures. You should refer to this plan to help you understand and apply the procedures regarding

proper selection and use of respirators. The plan will contain procedures for medical evaluations and fit testing, as well as for cleaning, disinfecting, storing, inspecting, repairing, discarding, and maintaining respirators.

You should receive training to learn the proper use of respirators and the respiratory hazards you may be exposed to at the jobsite. Pay attention and participate. Before you use a respirator in a hazardous environment, make sure you know how to use that specific respirator and that you understand the dangers involved. If you have questions or if there is anything you don't understand, talk to your supervisor.

Remember that improper or incorrect use of respirators can result in exposure to hazardous contaminants, suffocation, permanent respiratory damage, cancer, heart disease, and death. Wearing the wrong respirator for the job or one that does not fit properly can be as deadly as not wearing one at all. If you have trouble breathing or sense that you are inhaling contaminants when wearing a respirator, leave the area immediately.

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SAFETY REMINDER
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If you are properly trained to use respirators, you can enter a hazardous environment and breathe easy!

NOTES:

SPECIAL TOPICS /EMPLOYEE SAFETY RECOMMENDATIONS/NOTES:

S.A.F.E. CARDS® PLANNED FOR THIS WEEK:

REVIEWED SDS # _____ SUBJECT: _____

MEETING DOCUMENTATION:

JOB NAME: _____

MEETING DATE: _____

SUPERVISOR: _____

ATTENDEES: _____

These instructions do not supersede local, state, or federal regulations.