WORKING WITH CHEMICALS

TOOLBOX TALK SERIES – HAZARDS

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Chemicals are a common part of many workplaces, and exposure to hazardous chemicals can cause serious health problems. Here are some key points to remember to prevent chemical hazards:

1. Know the hazards: Chemicals can be toxic, corrosive, or flammable. Some chemicals can cause respiratory problems, skin irritation, or even cancer. Always read the label and safety data sheet (SDS) for each chemical you work with to understand its hazards and proper handling.

2. Use proper personal protective equipment: Wear the appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE), such as gloves, eye protection, and respiratory protection, when working with hazardous chemicals. Make sure that PPE fits properly and is in good condition.

3. Handle and store chemicals properly: Always follow proper handling and storage procedures for chemicals, including proper labeling and storage in designated areas. Avoid mixing chemicals and always dispose of them properly.

4. Follow proper work practices: Use work practices that help control the amount of chemicals released into the air, such as ventilation, and always follow proper procedures for cleaning up spills and leaks.

5. Get regular medical checkups: If you work with hazardous chemicals, get regular medical checkups to monitor your health and detect any early signs of chemical exposure.

Remember, chemical hazards can be serious and potentially life-threatening. By following these simple steps, we can help ensure that everyone stays safe on the job.