



Motor Trade Association of SA Environmental Fact Sheet

SPILL MANAGEMENT

Minimise the risk of a spill

Minimise the risk of spills, use spill trays, tightly seal containers and inspect drums and tanks for leaks.

Preparing for a spill

Be prepared for a chemical spill:

- Keep a spill kit in your workplace
- Appoint a spill coordinator to organise a spill clean up plan and train staff
- Set up a spill clean up plan
- Draw and display a map of the site, include storm water drains, oil separation system, sewer drains, spill kits, and emergency contact numbers such as the EPA emergency response team 1800 100 833

Spill kits

Keep spill kits in easily accessible locations. It could include booms, sawdust, absorbent pads or pillows, kitty litter, granules, mops, dust pans, brooms and depending on the chemicals stored on the premises it may contain personal protective clothing. Note that absorbents for coolant are different from those for oil or battery acid or fuel.

When purchasing a spill kit consider:

- What is the maximum likely spill risk?
- Could the spill be in or around water?
- Will the spill be oil, fuel or other chemical liquids?
- Can used items be reordered?
- Do absorbent materials contain harmful dust or microorganisms?
- Will the kits absorbents harm equipment?
- Are practical instructions and training available in the use of the spill kit?
- Is appropriate personal protective equipment included in the kit?
- Are reorder forms and a list of the spill kits contents available?

- Ask for a demonstration of absorbency rates compared to other products

Emergency spill clean up procedure

1. Stop the source

If it is safe to do so immediately stop the spill at its source.

2. Contain the spill

Prevent the spill from entering any storm water or sewerage drains by blocking the drain inlets using: booms, absorbent granules, pads or even damp sand.

3. Clean up

Clean up the spill using information from the relevant MSDS. Dispose of clean up materials appropriately. Many chemical substances such as oil can not be disposed of to general rubbish.

4. Notify relevant authorities

If a spill occurs that threatens or harms the environment you must notify the Environment Protection Authority. The Fire Brigade may also need to be called if the spill is of a large scale hazardous substance.

5. Keep a record of the incident

Note down and keep a record of the incident, how and when it happened, witnesses, and plans to stop a similar incident occurring in the future.

Any questions call the MTA

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