

# The Easy HANDBOOK

of European SDSs

## SECTION 6:

accidental release  
measures



# What information do I need to provide in section 6 of the SDS?



**6.1** Personal precautions, protective equipment and emergency procedures



**6.2** Environmental precautions



**6.3** Methods and material for containment and cleaning up



**6.4** Reference to other sections

This section provides recommendations in the event of spills, leaks or releases, to prevent or minimise the adverse effects on people, property and the environment. Recommendations include containment, recovery, cleaning methods and precautions to be used during these actions.

# 6.1

subsection

## FIRST STEP

# personal precautions, protective equipment and emergency procedures

### For **NON emergency personnel**



### For emergency responders

First, information must be given **for non-emergency personnel**, who does not directly intervene on the spills or releases.

The indications concern:

- the wearing of suitable protective equipment, to prevent any contamination of skin, eyes and personal clothing;
- removing ignition sources, providing adequate ventilation and dust control;
- emergency procedures, such as the need to evacuate the danger area or to consult an expert.

**For emergency responders**, advice shall be provided related to the suitable fabric for personal protective clothing for workers involved in containment, cleaning and possibly disposal operations.

If any material commonly used for protective clothing is not suitable for contact with spilled material, this should be highlighted. For example: "adequate: butylene"; "not adequate: PVC".

# 6.2

subsection

## SECOND STEP Environmental precautions



Advice on any environmental precautions to be taken related to accidental spills and release of the substance or mixture shall be provided in this subsection. The most common recommendations are to keep spills away from drains, surface water and ground water as much as possible.

# 6.3

subsection

## THIRD STEP

# Methods and material for containment and cleaning up



Appropriate advice shall be given on how and with which materials to **contain** a spill of the product and how to provide for its **remediation**.

## 1 How to contain a spill

There are many containment techniques, and they should be chosen by who manages the plant where the accident occurs, since they must be adopted taking into account the available resources, the dangers to be avoided and the extent of the loss.

The most common techniques include:

- **Bunding:** a measure consisting of liquid collection structures that, in the event of any leak or spillage from tanks or pipe work, capture the excess volume of liquids contained, such as an embankment. Bunded areas drain the liquids to a collection tank equipped with structures suitable for the separation of oil / water;
- **Capping procedures:** i.e. providing a cover or protection (e.g. to prevent leaching, damage or spillage).

## How to clean up a spill

- 2 Appropriate clean-up procedures may include, for example:
- neutralization techniques;
  - decontamination techniques;
  - adsorbent materials;
  - cleaning techniques;
  - vacuuming techniques;
  - equipment required for containment/clean-up (including the use of anti-spark tools and equipment, where appropriate).

## Any other information

- 3 Any other information relating to spills and releases must be provided, including advice on inappropriate containment or clean-up techniques, such as the indication "never use..."

Some examples of recommendations that could be included in this subsection are:

- Wet clean or vacuum up solids;
- Do not use a brush or compressed air to clean surfaces or clothing;
- Clear spills immediately.



# 6.4

## subsection

### FOURTH STEP

## Reference to other sections



Sections 8 and 13 can be referred to, as the intention in this subsection is to avoid duplication of information. Of course, any references to other sections must be reflected in the sections mentioned.

The reference to section 8 can be very useful to avoid repeating the information concerning the recommended PPE.