

## Spill control

### What?

- ❑ accidental releases of oils and chemicals from construction sites make up a large number of pollution incidents that occur each year
- ❑ many spillages can be prevented. It is important that everyone on site knows how to control a spill to minimise its impact and what preventative measures are in place on their project.

### Why?

- ❑ **avoid environmental harm:** spills spread very quickly and can cause damage to the environment
- ❑ **avoid prosecution:** fines and clean up costs can be expensive
- ❑ **public relations:** avoid negative publicity for the company and clients to maintain workload.



### Questions

- 1 What are the spill control procedures on areas of the site?
- 2 Where is the nearest spill kit located?
- 3 Where and to who are spills reported to on site?
- 4 What should be done with contaminated soils?
- 5 Where is the designated place for concrete washout on site?

### Do

- ✓ know where all spill kits are and how to use them
- ✓ practice annual spill response drills to ensure knowledge of plans and how to use clean-up equipment
- ✓ if a spill occurs **stop work immediately**
- ✓ if possible and safe to do so contain the spill in accordance with the spill plan
- ✓ if spillage is flammable, extinguish all possible ignitions
- ✓ contain the spillage – on land use earth/sand to construct a bund around the spill to stop it spreading
- ✓ protect sensitive areas (eg watercourses or surface water drains), and use drain covers or use earth/sand to construct a bund
- ✓ in watercourses consider oil boom downstream of all possible spillages before work starts
- ✓ clean up the spill. Use absorbent granules/pads to mop up spills. Large pools of oil or spills that cannot be absorbed should be removed by gulper

- ✓ ensure to have the correct spill clean-up equipment, eg oil booms, chemical absorbent mats
- ✓ dispose of all contaminated materials (soil/absorbent materials) correctly – those containing substances such as oil, diesel or paint will be hazardous waste
- ✓ ensure any contaminated water is taken to an appropriately licensed disposal site
- ✓ notify a line manager of actions taken.

### Don't

- ✗ ignore it! **STOP WORK** and **ACT** immediately
- ✗ hide the incident – ensure it is reported to the line manager and controls implemented
- ✗ tackle spills if it is not safe
- ✗ hose down spills of concrete or cement into surface water drains.

Title:

Given by:

Date:

Site:

Name	Company	Signature

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