

# Chemical Spill Emergency



A hazardous substance (including dairy shed chemicals, agrichemicals, diesel or petrol) could spill and cause harm to people in the vicinity or damage the environment.

## Contact information

Emergency services	Fire/Police/Ambulance	111
Medical centre / Doctor		
Worksafe	Regulator	0800 030 040
First aid trained person		
Manager		
Local regional council		
Poisons	National Poisons Centre	0800 764 766

### What you need

A chemical spill kit that is adequate for the amount of chemicals you have stored and the size of the hazardous substance containers.

A chemical spill kit could include:

#### Personal protective equipment

- Gloves
- Eye protection
- Overalls
- Carbon rated filter mask
- Rubber boots

### Other equipment

- Containment equipment
- A disposal container
- Absorbent materials
- Brush and shovel
- Isolation tape

Review date

# What to do

## Immediate response

- 1 Take spill kit to the scene (spill kit will have spill procedure inside bin).
- 2 Ensure the scene is safe and check for any injured or trapped people.
- 3 Correctly, identify what has been spilt and refer to the Safety Data Sheet for emergency procedures.
- 4 Put on appropriate PPE.
- 5 Remove any possible source of ignition.
- 6 Stop the source.
- 7 Assess the risks to human health and the environment (if a chemical spill enters waterways the local Regional Council must be informed).
- 8 Assess the magnitude of the spill (major = >200litres, spillage extends past the site, toxic fumes, any amount of Class 3 and Class 6.1 in packing group 1 & 2, all tracked substances).
- 9 Move people (including yourself) upwind and away from toxic fumes if applicable.
- 10 Cordon/seal off area to prevent further exposure.
- 11 Get medical help if required.
- 12 Stop liquid spills from spreading or entering drains and natural waterways by using absorbents or containment booms.

## Clean up

- 1 Collect the right materials and equipment for clean-up.
- 2 Put on appropriate PPE for the chemical being handled.
- 3 Do not dampen down powders unless you are sure of their reaction to water.
- 4 Shovel up moist absorbents and place a in a suitable container.
- 5 Mark on the outside of the container the contents that are inside.
- 6 Dispose of the spilt material using the appropriate specialist.

## Vehicle fire

- 1 Turn off the engine.
- 2 Take the fire extinguisher and get out (if you forget the extinguisher, don't go back).
- 3 If the fire is small use the fire extinguisher to put out the fire.
- 4 Call emergency services (dial 111) if the fire is out of control.
- 5 Move to a safe place as far away from the fire as possible.

## After the event

- Replace spill equipment taken from spill kit.
- Check PPE has not been damaged.
- Determine how the spillage occurred and put a plan in place to make sure the spillage doesn't happen again.