

COS SAFETY SHARE

WHAT WILL WE DO TO PREVENT THIS FROM HAPPENING HERE?

PAINT PRODUCTS MIXED FOR DISPOSAL RESULTS IN MUSTER EVENT

What happened?

During the disposal of expired paint products, a worker mixed epoxy resin and solidifier in a container. In a second container, epoxy paint A & B components were mixed. Finally, the two containers were mixed into a five-gallon bucket and placed in a paint locker.

Five minutes later, the worker noticed smoke coming from the locker. The worker placed the bucket into a larger container filled with water and left.

Twenty minutes later, the worker's supervisor noticed white smoke coming from the container and called the control room. The platform was shut down and personnel mustered.

The worker added more water to the container enroute to his muster station, but the smoking did not stop until later when the mixture was covered with fire retardant powder.

What went wrong?

A worker mixed expired paint products and epoxy resin and solidifier together for disposal.

Why did it happen?

Epoxy and paint are incompatible materials. Permit did not mention mixing of products. JSA did not cover the risk of mixing products can cause a chemical reaction. JSA did not state the importance of following manufactures guidelines when mixing products. JSA did not state that mixing different manufacturer's products should never take place. Safety Data Sheets (SDS) for all the products being mixed were not attached to the permit.

What areas were identified for improvement?

Permit and JSA updated to address the risk of mixing products and what to do in the event of an exothermic reaction. Paint Policy updated to address procedure for mixing paints for disposal. Refresher training held on reporting all incidents to Operations.

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