

Attention Defence Leaders: Are Your Workplace Chemical Risks ALARP?

Meeting Your Positive Duty of Care

The ADF is a leader in award winning workplace safety and, at EFS, we applaud the great work already done in creating a safe and healthy environment for Defence Force workers. When it comes to health and safety, meeting your duty of care is a never ending responsibility involving a constant search for new and safer ways of getting the job done.

For Defence the journey must continue.

When it comes to maintaining and building upon the ADF's safety reputation, EFS is a proud partner in helping Defence decision makers meet their positive duty of care by replacing toxic and hazardous chemicals in workplace.

It's an undeniable fact that almost every Australian workplace contains some form of chemical hazard and, in many cases, this an unavoidable risk that must be tolerated. What is less understood, however, is that there is still a vast array of other hazardous workplace chemicals for which more effective and far safer alternatives exist.

Meeting your duty of care obligations means considering these options.

Common Chemical Risk Sources

In the ADF hazardous chemicals are abundant and, in the maritime environment, the associated risks can be more complicated than on land. Fires, spills, run-off and accidental exposure on board vessels and in water ways is of particular concern to those managing risk.

Flammable, toxic solvents used in common maintenance procedures require special storage and handling, create large amounts of toxic waste and pose a health risk to workers. Many common cleaning and degreasing agents currently in contain toxic ingredients which, even with careful use, are likely to expose workers and the environment to risk.

In some cases the hazardous and highly reactive nature of existing chemicals restricts or completely prohibits their use in environments such as submarines and confined spaces, leading to more complicated maintenance procedures with inherent safety risks of their own.

Risk Treatment Through Substitution

The chemical technology that has created these workplace risks is fast being superceded by newer, more advanced products, which are more targeted and effective in their action and have far fewer undesired effects. In today's workplace, decision makers have the option to substitute many hazardous and toxic solvents, cleaners, degreasers and other chemicals with safe, more cost effective alternatives.

EFS has Australia's largest range of Worksafe and Environmentally Compliant cleaners, degreasers, solvents and other industrial chemicals and our products are available for immediate order through a range of internal Defence channels.



ALARP Principle

The ALARP Principle (As Low as Reasonable Practical) forms part of the ADF's risk management framework.

Under this principle risk treatment options are weighed against the cost of implementation and the severity of potential consequences in order to establish whether a particular risk should be tolerated.

If simple, cost effective steps are available to lower WHS risks without affecting performance then those steps must be taken in order to meet duty of care requirements. This includes exposure to hazardous chemicals.

A large, dynamic splash of blue water with many bubbles, moving from the right side of the page towards the left. The water is bright blue and has a high-contrast, energetic appearance.

For a Better World

Featured Products



NSN 7930 661 597251
NSN 7930 661 520078
NSN 7930 661 520079

triple⁷ Heavy Duty

- Removes heavy dirt, oils and grease without harsh chemicals that 'burn' off deposits.
- No HAZCHEM rating or storage requirements.
- Safe for food areas.
- Safe for workers, immediate and long term health. No PPE required.
- Accepted for landfill and safe for ecosystems, waterways and wetlands.



NSN 6850 661 520080
NSN 6850 661 520081

triple⁷ Enviroscale

- Removes scale with the highest rate of scale removal at the lowest corrosion rate.
- Non toxic / non hazardous and replaces many dangerous chemicals currently in use.
- Use without disassembling equipment.
- Biodegradable and can be flushed through sewage systems.



NSN 6850 661 597245
NSN 6850 661 597248
NSN 6850 661 597249

triple⁷ Aircraft & Metal

- For aircraft exteriors, components and soft metals.
- Non-toxic, non-corrosive, non-flammable.
- MIL PRF680 Type IV.
- Designed for simplified maintenance procedures.
- Improves oil / water separator performance.
- Improves overall waste water quality.



NSN 6840 661 546200
NSN 6840 661 597256

triple⁷ Odour Control

- Cleans & destroys odours by targeting problems their source. Retards Hydrogen Sulphide production.
- Effective for water treatment, refuse, effluent, low water use toilets, marine tanks and general cleaning.
- Non-corrosive, non-toxic and non-hazardous.
- Improves overall waste water quality. Suitable for septic systems and grey water irrigation.



purasolve Parts Cleaner

- Removes heavy dirt, oils and grease without harsh chemicals that 'burn' off deposits.
- No HAZCHEM rating or storage requirements.
- Safe for food areas.
- Safe for workers. No PPE required.
- Accepted for landfill and safe for ecosystems, waterways and wetlands.



NSN 6850 661 597259

purasolve Surface Prep

- High performance alternative to dangerous, explosive solvents.
- Low vapour pressure, high flash point.
- Slow evaporation reducing product use.
- Reduces VOC emissions compared to traditional solvents.
- Evaporates completely leaving no contamination on surface.
- Low odour.

For further information and ordering
contact us on **1800 777 580** or sales@efsgroup.com.au

Defence: MRO Panel Member (SON) 404267.