CHEMICAL SPILLS ARE NOT OIL SPILLS
CONVENTIONAL SPILL RESPONSE APPROACH NEEDS REVIEW

Spill Industry Seminar at Interspill

2012

13th March

Companies at risk of major chemical spills comply with COMAH

Most companies using aggressive chemicals do not need to comply with COMAH.

The uses of concentrated hazardous chemicals are many and varied.

- Warehousing - Forklift Battery Charging Stations
- Telecoms and Repeater Towers - Powerpack battery Back Up
- Water Treatment Plants – Dosing Chemicals
- Food companies - Cleaning chemicals
- Hospitals - Variety of acids, alkalis, formaldehyde, bleach
- Every company with Lab facilities - Variety of chemicals
- Schools - labs

The Use of Aggressive Chemicals is growing strongly

Health and Safety Executive Recommendations on Chemical Spills

HSE

Risk Assessment

- For each chemical on site select suitable neutraliser
- Equip site with spill kits containing suitable neutralisers

Spill Response

- Contain spill
- Render safe by neutralisation
- Clean Up

Coventional Chemical Spill Control

Risk Assessment

1. Identification of Chemicals liable to Spill?
2. Identification of appropriate neutraliser

Spill Response

Conventional Chemical Spill kit

ABSORBENTS – NO NEUTRALISERS

Why use neutralisers?

1. Comply with HSE best practice
2. Operator Safety
    - Hazardous chemical to neutral chemical – no human risk
3. Cost Saving
    - Disposal through hazardous waste system very expensive compared to general waste
    - Or flush neutralised chemical residue to foul water system
    - Where contractors deal with hazardous spills , savings on contractor costs
4. Return the site to workable condition quickly..

Risk Assessment and Identification of neutralisers specific to the chemicals on site.

Application	Aggressive Chemical	Neutraliser
Forklift Battery	Sulphuric Acid	Vytac ACX
Electric Vehicle battery	Caustic	Vytac CS
Water Treatment Plant	Orthophosphoric acid	Vytac ACX
	Hydrofluoric acid	Vytac ACX
Food Factory cleaning	Sodium hypochlorite	Vytac CS
Hospitals, Laboratories	Caustic	Vytac JCN
	Bleach	Vytac JCN
	Formaldehyde	Vytac FCN and FAS
	Mercury	Vytac MVS and MIS

The Operative should not play chemist.

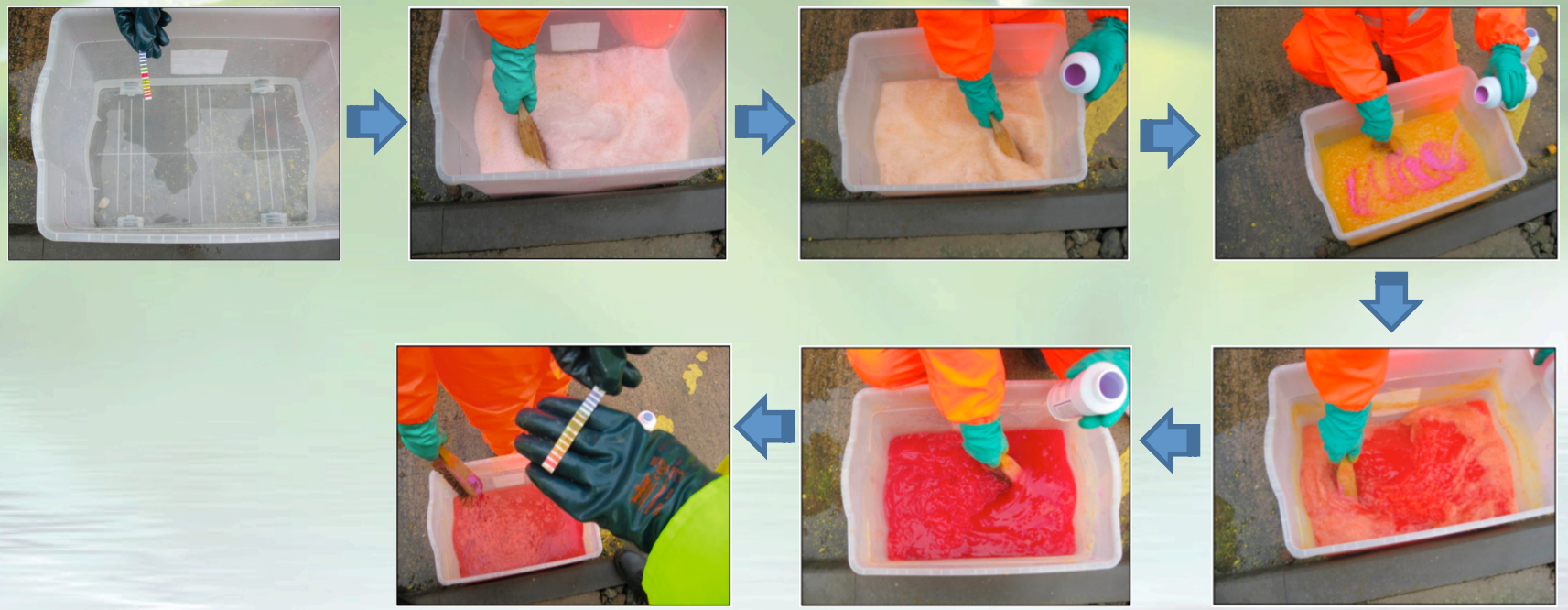
Small spill acid neutralisation

The Operative should not play chemist.

Water Treatment Dosing Plant

The Operative should not play chemist.

Acid Neutralisation

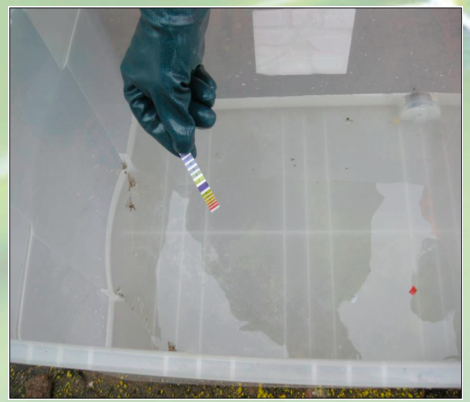


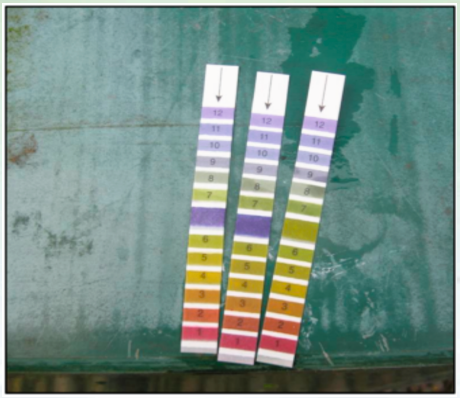
Simple and Built in Visual Indicator

Neutralised Liquid

- Effervescence stop and red is permanent

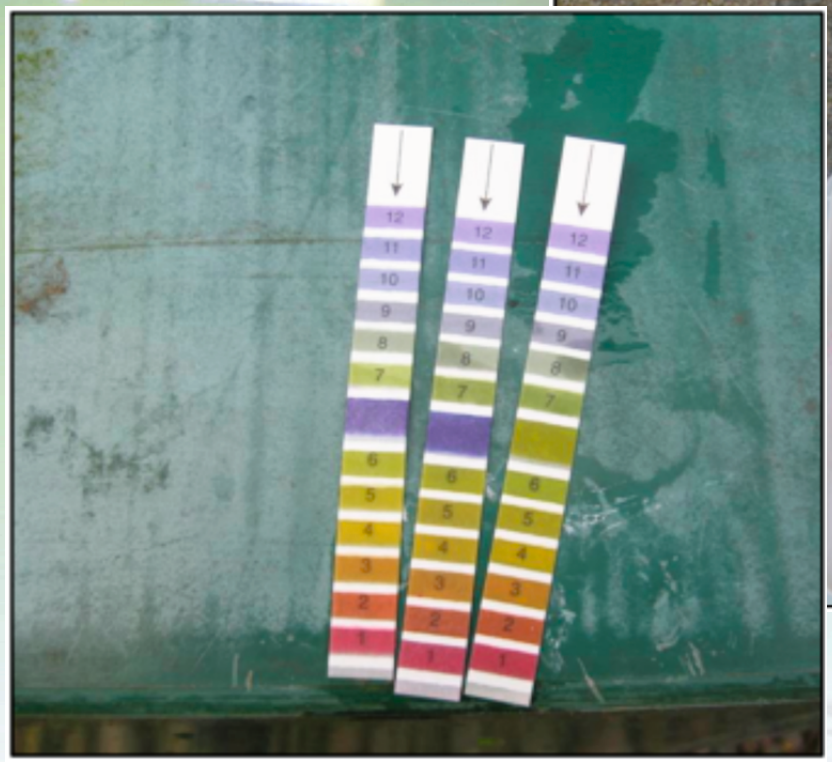
Sodium Hydroxide Neutralisation

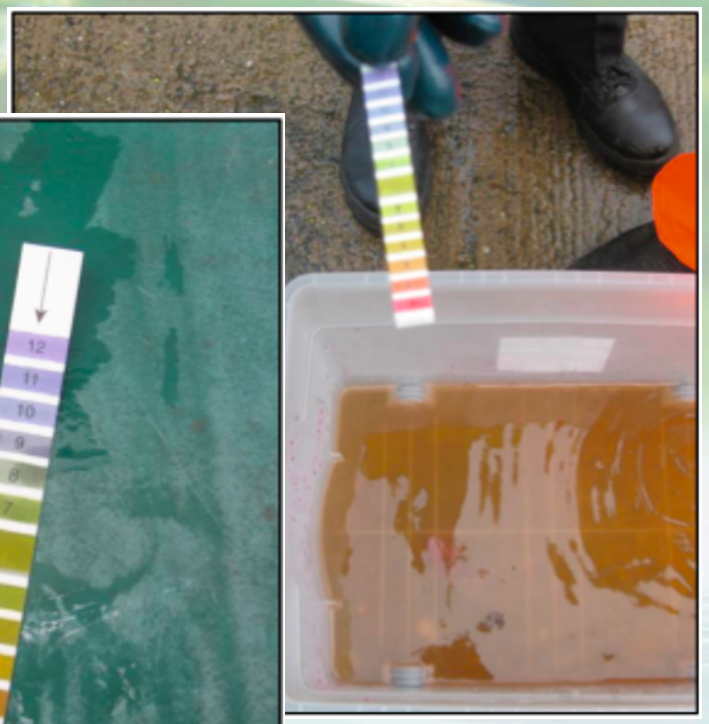




Neutralised Liquid

- Permanent dark yellow colour





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CHEMICAL SPILLS

+ NEUTRALISATION

= OPERATOR SAFETY

+ COST SAVING