

Study on Hazardous Substances: Their Nature, Use and Handling Procedures in Small Manufacturing Enterprises

Research Paper No. 1993-03



Department of Labor and Employment
Occupational Safety and Health Center
North Avenue corner Agham Road,
Diliman, Quezon City, Philippines



Management System
ISO 9001:2015
www.tuv.com
ID 9105081680



Study on Hazardous Substances: Their Nature, Use and Handling Procedures in Small Manufacturing Enterprises

Abstract

Two hundred leather, chemical and fabricated metal establishments were surveyed with regards to the use, nature and handling procedures of hazardous substances. Result showed that:

- 93% of the chemicals used were supplied without material safety data sheet;
- Workers were not given precautionary instructions on the proper handling and use of chemicals, resulting from workers' exposure to vapors and solvents through splashing and spillages;
- Chemicals were repacked manually into smaller volumes in areas within the premises of their homes;
- Mechanical mixers were often used without cover;
- The wrong practice of washing hands with solvents like thinner and oil was likewise observed;
- Smoking is not prohibited in the workareas where flammable chemicals are used/handled.