

HANDLING, STORING & DISPOSING OF DANGEROUS SUBSTANCES, ARTICLES & GOODS IN THE WORKPLACE



ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DEPARTMENT

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“As easily as a fire warms, it harms; so too a chemical not properly used and disposed”

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Chemical Life Cycle



Life Cycle Management

- Importation & Distribution
 - There is no formal labelling and classification system for all chemicals.
- Chemical Use & Handling
 - Chemicals not used in accordance with instructions and labels.
 - Lack of awareness of the proper use of personal protective equipment.

Life Cycle Management cont'd

- Storage

- Management of chemicals does not appear to be a priority for most companies.
- Chemical storage needs to be better managed.
- Chemicals stored in poorly labelled containers.

Life Cycle Management cont'd

- Disposal

- There are no treatment and disposal facilities for hazardous waste in Barbados.
- Local laboratory facilities lack the capacity to identify all hazardous waste.

Types of Chemicals Imported

- Insecticides
- Fungicides
- Herbicides
- Fertilizers
- Cleaning Agents
- Pharmaceuticals - Medications
- Laboratory Reagents

HANDLING

- Personal Protective Equipment
- Assessing of Risks
- Routes of Exposure
- Compatibles/Incompatibles
- Training
- Instructions and applications
- Contingency Plans – Emergency Procedures
- Standard Operating Procedures

STORAGE

- Compatibles/Incompatibles
- Ventilation
- Containment
- Security
- Storage Conditions
- Standard Operating Procedures

DISPOSAL

- Barbados does not have the capacity to adequately dispose of hazardous wastes.
- Barbados is a Party to:
 - Basel Convention
 - Stockholm Convention
- Barbados is signatory to:
 - Rotterdam Convention

Waste Disposal in Barbados

- Mangrove Pond Landfill
 - Municipal waste
- Lonesome Hill Disposal Site
 - Blood and grease
- Rock Hall Disposal Site
 - Asbestos containing waste and fibreglass

Role of EPD

- The EPD offers regulatory advice on the most suitable method of disposal of hazardous waste.
 - Letter requesting advice
 - List of chemicals to be disposed
 - SDS for the chemicals
 - Volume of chemicals for disposal
- Facilitates the shipment of hazardous wastes off island for disposal.

BASEL CONVENTION

- Governs the transboundary movement of hazardous wastes and their disposal.
- Barbados acceded to this Convention on August 24, 1995.
- The Convention aims to ensure that hazardous wastes are disposed in an environmentally sound manner.

Procedures for Shipment

- All chemicals must be identified according to the categories of the Basel Convention.
- Chemicals must appropriately packaged for shipment
- Transboundary Notification Documents must be completed and submitted to EPD
- Approval for the shipment from the port of import and ports of transit must be obtained before shipment can commence

LEGISLATION

- Radiation Protection (CAP 353A)
- Pesticides Control Act (CAP 395)
- Control of Standards Act (CAP 326A)
- Marine Pollution Control Act 1998
- Coastal Zone Management Act 1998
- Town and Country Planning Act
- The Barbados Water Authority Act
- Safety & Health at Work Act 2005

IMPACTS FROM IMPROPER MANAGEMENT

- Groundwater contamination
- Environmental Degradation
- Human Health
 - Disease potential
 - Bioaccumulation
 - Persistence

QUESTIONS





THANK YOU