



# Tool Box Talk

Focus on Performance

## Spill Response

Sust. 05

### What?

Fuel, oils and many chemicals have hazardous properties. Spills or leaks onto the ground or into watercourses cause pollution.

### Why?

Responding quickly and effectively can minimise or even avoid the effects of a pollution incident. Regulators also take emergency actions into account when investigating significant incidents.

### How?

In the event of a fuel or chemical spill, take the following steps:

#### Stop

- Check it is safe to control the spillage.
- Ensure you have appropriate personal protective equipment (e.g. gloves, footwear) to clean up the spill.
- Turn off valves or open nozzles.
- Stand up containers and seal leaking drums

#### Control

- Use spill kits to prevent fuel or chemicals entering watercourses or drains.
  - Use absorbent booms and drain covers. As an emergency option consider creating a temporary soil bund.
- Clean up spill. Use absorbent pads, granules or sand to soak up the spill.
  - White spill kits should be used for fuel and oils.
  - Yellow spill kits should be used for chemicals.

#### Notify

- Inform your supervisor of the incident.
  - Include details such as time, location, actions taken.

After a pollution incident:

- Clear up the contaminated spill kit equipment and dispose into a suitable hazardous waste container.
- Ensure spill kits are restocked.

Following this tool box talk, take time to familiarise yourself on the location and contents of spill kits on site.



### Questions

1. What should you first check before responding to a spill?
2. How might you prevent a chemical running into drains?
3. What colour spill kits are used for fuel and oils?

If you have any queries regarding the content of this tool box talk please contact your Sustainability Advisor or Line Manager.