

TOOLBOX TALK

STORAGE & SEGREGATION OF WASTE

WHAT? Allowing waste to escape into the environment not only causes nuisance to neighbours and generates a poor public image it is illegal.

Segregating wastes into hazardous, non hazardous and inert waste types for disposal can help minimise costs and maximise the opportunities for recovery and recycling.

WHY?

- ◆ **Avoid prosecution:** It is the duty of all waste producers to prevent their waste escaping into the environment. It is illegal to mix hazardous waste with other waste types which are to be sent directly to landfill.
- ◆ **Reduce costs:** The segregation of waste into separate containers or skips can lead to lower costs by
 - ◆ • reducing disposal costs and landfill tax payments through preventing the contamination of inactive wastes by active wastes.
 - ◆ • maximising the potential for reusing and recycling materials.
 - ◆ • making it easier to see how much of each type of waste is being produced and where efforts to reduce waste need to be targeted.

DO

- ✓ Keep sites tidy and collect up any waste regularly.
- ✓ Use waste containers or skips suitable for the type of waste being stored.
- ✓ Use skips with lids or cover them with sheets or nets to prevent dust and litter being blown out.
- ✓ Check that containers and skips are not corroded or worn out to minimize the risk of accidental spillages or leaks.
- ✓ Mark waste containers clearly with their intended contents and ensure labels on containers are kept in good order.
- ✓ Segregate waste before putting it into the designated containers – ask your supervisor if unsure.

DON'T

- ✗ DON'T throw materials into the wrong container.
- ✗ DON'T contaminate one waste type with another or mix different types of waste.
- ✗ DON'T mix hazardous with non-hazardous waste – it's illegal.
- ✗ DON'T give waste away, all waste taken off site needs to be accompanied by paperwork.
- ✗ DON'T damage covers over or bunds around any skips or containers.
- ✗ DON'T burn or bury waste – it's illegal.
- ✗ DON'T put liquids and flammable wastes into skips.

