

EMERGENCY ACTION PLAN

Scope and Application

An effective Occupational Health and Safety Program provides many workplace benefits, some of which include increased productivity, high employee morale, and reduced absenteeism and illness. Despite the best prevention efforts, emergencies do occur. This program outlines procedures for best preparing for these emergencies such that the losses are minimized.

Implementation

Management has the responsibility for the facility's Emergency Action Plan. To ensure the safety of employees and protection of property, this plan will be reviewed, updated, and revised as needed. The primary focus will be on **prevention** of emergencies.

The program will be reviewed with each new employee, whenever the employee's responsibilities or designated actions under this plan have changed, and when this plan is updated, revised, or changed in any way.

A sufficient number of employees will be trained to assist in the safe and orderly emergency evacuation of employees. This plan is kept in readily accessible locations throughout the facility for employees to review. Any questions regarding this plan should be directed to the Human Resources Department.

This plan includes, but is not limited to, the following elements:

- Emergency escape procedures and emergency escape assignments
- Procedures for employees responsible for critical facility operation prior to evacuation
- An accounting procedure for all employees after an evacuation
- Rescue and medical duties for authorized employees
- The preferred method of reporting all emergencies.
- Names or position titles of persons designated with responsibilities and duties.

Procedure

1.0 Alarm System

- A. The alarm system for notifying employees to evacuate the facility consists of the , which can be detected over all facility operations and is distinctive enough to draw the attention of all employees.
- B. Special methods will be devised for those employees with vision or hearing impairment.
- C. Each employee will be trained in the preferred method of sounding the alarm.
- D. This system will be tested annually.

2.0 Facility Evacuation

- A. Total and immediate evacuation of all employees will take place when the alarm sounds.
 1. The evacuation will be deemed necessary by management when notified of an emergency event and its degree of hazard.

- B. Evacuations can be ordered for emergencies such as:
 - 1. Fire, other than a small incipient fire (such as a small trash can fire)
 - 2. Explosion
 - 3. Hazardous materials spill
 - 4. Structural damage (i.e., roof collapse)
 - 5. Terrorism and sabotage
 - 6. Flood
- C. Depending upon the degree of hazard, employees will be instructed to either evacuate or remain in the facility.
 - 1. As a general rule, employees will remain in the facility during these emergencies:
 - a) Earthquakes
 - b) Storms
 - c) Ice storms
 - d) Snow
 - e) Thunderstorms
 - f) Tornadoes
 - g) Hurricanes
 - h) Windstorms
- D. Emergency Escape Routes
 - 1. Emergency escape routes and maps are posted throughout the facility, and all copies are included in this plan under Appendix B.
- E. Meeting Locations after Evacuating
 - 1. Exact locations (Safe Assembly Areas) where employees are to meet immediately after leaving the facility are included in the Evacuation Maps under Appendix B.
 - 2. The primary assembly point is _____, and the alternate when instructed by Management is _____.

3.0 Employee Training

- A. Employees will be trained as to when to initiate an alarm, who to notify, and how to initiate the alarm in the event of an emergency.
 - 1. All employees will be trained to:
 - a) Evacuate the facility in a safe and orderly fashion.
 - b) Move away from exit doors of the facility after exiting.
 - c) Avoid congregation close to the building.
 - d) Recognize fire hazards of the materials and processes to which they are exposed.
 - 2. Testing of the alarm system and review of the evacuation procedures will take place at least once a year to ensure the outlined procedures are followed and employees are adequately trained.
 - 3. Designated employees will be trained annually and authorized to operate a portable fire extinguisher and fight an incipient fire (ONLY).

4.0 Evacuation Procedures

- A. Employees are to first notify their immediate supervisor, and if unavailable, a Safety Committee member or management representative.
- B. If an imminent hazard is noted (e.g., a fire involving flammables, or severely ill or injured person) immediately contact **911**.
- C. Supervisors and Leads are responsible for acting as evacuation wardens.
 - 1. Their duties include:
 - a) Swiftly moving their employees from a danger location to a safe location, and assembly point
 - b) Overseeing their employees
 - c) Providing guidance and instruction to employees
 - d) Knowing all escape routes, including primary and secondary evacuation points and assembly points
 - e) Being familiar with the layout of the facility
 - f) Providing extra assistance to impaired employees
 - g) Recognizing and avoiding hazardous areas in an emergency
 - h) Checking all rooms, enclosed areas, or spaces where employees could be trapped or are otherwise unable to evacuate.
 - i) After evacuation, take a headcount of all assigned employees, keeping them in the safe area, and be ready to report as to “all present.”
 - IMMEDIATELY report those not present to the Senior Management Person on-site. He or she will then report to the responding officials.
 - j) Re-entry into the facility for rescue purposes will be carried out by Fire Department Personnel.
 - This is to be done only after the Head Count has been completed.
- D. **First aid/CPR providers** will administer first aid at the safe area.
 - 1. Evacuation of all employees will take place first unless an injured employee cannot be moved without first providing basic first aid.

5.0 Fire Prevention and Hazards

- A. Hot work (grinding, welding, cutting) safety procedures include the following:
 - 1. Assure that welding equipment (including ground source, electrode lead cables, connectors, hoses, fittings valves, regulators, gauges, etc.) are routinely inspected and in good condition and free from leaks, rust, wear, and deteriorated parts.
 - 2. Assure that flashback arresting devices are in place.
 - 3. Assure that oxygen and acetylene cylinders are stored separately (20' separation, or 5' fire wall).
 - a) Assure that cylinder caps are in place, and cylinders are kept in an upright position.
 - 4. Keep “No Smoking/Ignition Sources” signs posted in cylinder storage area.
 - 5. Keep a proper and fully charged fire extinguisher in the storage and use area.
 - 6. Eliminate combustibles/flammables from area and cover non-removable materials with fire resistant covers.

- a) Use purging, cleaning, and inserting procedures as needed to prevent fires and/or explosions.
- 7. Protect areas below hot work areas.
- 8. Make sure electrodes are removed from holders when not in use.
- B. Flammable and combustible liquid handling includes the following:
 - 1. Use grounding/bonding for storage/transfer.
 - 2. Eliminate all ignition sources from the area.
 - 3. Post area as "No Smoking/Ignition sources."
 - 4. Perform frequent clean-up of all combustible residues.
 - 5. Dispose of all waste materials properly; rags should be disposed of in approved metal self-closing, labeled containers.
 - 6. Store materials in approved and designated areas (e.g., flammable storage building, metal cabinets) and provide spill containment.
 - 7. Use only approved and labeled metal cans for storage and wastes.
 - 8. Spray application of flammables is to be done in an approved and well-maintained spray booth.
 - a) Change filters when indicated by gauge.

Appendix B: Emergency Escape Routes and Maps

(Insert Map below)

Appendix C: Emergency Action Plan Exit Survey and Fire Extinguisher Check

Date: _____

Conducted by: _____

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
Exits and exit signs visible?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Exit location exit signs in contrast (different) from surroundings?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Signs or arrows leading to exits in place and visible.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Exit signs illuminated by reliable light sources not less than 5-foot candles, to remain "on" in the event of a power failure?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
All non-exits marked " Not an Exit " or identified appropriately?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fire Extinguishers		
All fully charged.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
All numbered?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Proper type and operable condition?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mounted properly and identified?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Blocked by debris?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Accessible from all directions?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Within 25 feet of the next fire extinguisher?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Appendix F: Emergency Action Plan and First Aid Kit Checklist

Item	Action Taken and By Whom
First aid kit fully supplied and located at safe area?	
Emergency Action Plan and all attachments at safe area?	
Incident commanders in possession of Emergency Action Plan?	
Company management personnel in possession of most recent Emergency Action Plan?	
Local officials in possession of most recent, up-to-date plan?	