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SPRAY POLYURETHANE FOAM HEALTH & SAFETY PROGRAM UPDATE

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Goal of Program

Worker Training

Outreach

Research

2012 Program Update
Industry-led SPF Product Stewardship

ACC Center for the Polyurethanes Industry

- Voice of polyurethanes industry in North America
- Promotes sustainable growth of PU industry for all end user markets
- Coordinates with user groups and global partners

CPI history of Product Stewardship

- Guidance materials on polyurethane raw materials
- Creation and promotion of polyurethane product stewardship materials including brochures, videos, training programs and websites
Industry-led SPF Product Stewardship

**PRIMARY GOAL**

*To increase understanding of safe installation practices regarding use, handling and disposal of spray polyurethane foam.*
Industry-led SPF Product Stewardship

Program focuses on practices and communications that can help to minimize potential for exposure to workers and building occupants to spray foam chemicals.

Three-pronged strategic approach to SPF product stewardship:

- **Worker Performance and Training** - Build and deploy a national health and safety training program for professional SPF contractors.

- **Outreach** - Educate DIY’ers, consumers and the building/construction sector about key issues including informing the selection of a contractor; differences between SPF products; health and safety considerations for DIY’ers and consumers during and after product installation.

- **Research** - Develop research and testing programs to develop a better understanding of potential exposure to chemical components for workers applying SPF and potential consumer/occupant exposure to SPF emissions.
Worker Training and Performance

- Posters
- Guidance
- Website
- Training
New Guidance Documents

Fire Safety Guidance

Working with Polyurethane Foam Products
During New Construction, Retrofit and Repair

Guidance for Videos or Images Showing Spray Polyurethane Foam (SPF) Application

Purpose

This guidance is intended to support the development of visual media content, including videos, photographs, animations, and graphic or artistic illustrations showing the installation of spray polyurethane foam (SPF) or polyurethane-based insulating foam foams. Such videos and images are often used in training, as marketing, or on websites, or for other purposes.

The document also helps producers or media outlets who want to use or reference SPF visual media content for their own purposes.

Introduction

In particular, the home construction industry, where visual content can be a powerful tool to demonstrate and instruct on the proper installation of SPF, is developing an increasing amount of visual content, either on their own websites or on others. This document is intended to provide a framework for this content, focusing on the use of images and videos that can be used in a variety of contexts, including on websites, in training materials, or for marketing purposes.

Because the process of applying SPF can be visually complex, ensuring that content is presented in a clear and informative manner can be very effective in both attracting interest and providing education.
Worker Training and Performance

CPI’s National SPF Health and Safety Training and Testing

• Launched in late 2010 focused on high-pressure SPF
• Over 3700 users to date
• Free, online training available 24/7
• Instructor-led function was automated in 2011 so classes can be scheduled, tests downloaded, and scores uploaded online
• Modules updated in 2011
• Searchable database of those with legitimate records of completion
• Training statistics shared with members and with Federal agencies monthly
Worker Training and Performance 2012

High pressure SPF Spanish translation and voice over planned for 2012

Low Pressure SPF Training Module under development now

• Builds on knowledge base of high-pressure training

• Will be available on the same learning management system module

• Will be created in English and Spanish

• Target completion date is Fall 2012
Outreach

• Outreach and education to the D-I-Y market and directly to audiences using, specifying, requesting, or contracting for SPF and occupying buildings in which foam has been installed.

• Educate SPF contractors and weatherization professionals about SPF EHS training available, health and safety practices, including occupant outreach.

• Understanding Green Marketing Claims
Whether you’re a homeowner hiring someone to install spray polyurethane foam (SPF) for you, a do-it-yourselfer, an SPF contractor, builder or weatherization professional, this site will give you the facts about SPF and important safety guidelines that should be followed during application.
Working Safely with Low-Pressure Spray Polyurethane Foam Insulation
Online DVD

This video provides general guidance for professionals on how to apply low-pressure spray polyurethane foam. It is intended as a supplement to other job safety information already available such as specialized training, Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS), product label information and other materials.

The video is available to view or download at www.spraypolyurethane.org.
Outreach 2012

- **Guidance to School Administrators and Facilities Managers**
  - Choosing a professional contractor and suggestions for a successful spray foam installation
  - Under revision-release 1st quarter 2012

- Continued promotion of guidance documents and training with all kinds of stakeholders

- Individual outreach to companies and others
Research

Development of research and testing projects for SPF raw materials, engineering practices, and analytical methods.

- SPF Product Emissions Testing
- Potential worker exposure to SPF components during spraying with varying ventilation rates
- Potential worker exposure to dust during trimming/cutting
Research

• **Product Emissions Project**
  
  • ASTM Work Item WK30960
    
    • New standard determination of volatile organic compounds, diisocyanates, oligomeric isocyanates, amine catalysts, fire retardants and other potential constituents emitted from spray polyurethane foam insulation (SPFI) products designed for on-site application in buildings

• **Ventilation Research Project:**
  
  • Phase 1 complete (test spray equipment and formulations)
  
  • Phase 2 underway (monitor chemical emissions during SPF application under controlled environmental conditions)
Conclusion

• SPF is helping to fuel the economic recovery and represents an excellent way for building operators and homeowners to improve on energy efficiency.

• Communication and training are essential to continuing to improve health and safety of workers and the public, and helping the public understand the benefits of SPF.

• Product stewardship is not just about health and safety; it is also about supporting the industry’s reputation and sustainable growth of the industry.

• CPI is committed to creating information, tools and programs to enhance product stewardship.
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