PLASTICS INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION

ORGANIC PEROXIDE PRODUCERS SAFETY DIVISION

Liquid Organic Peroxide Spill Clean Up

This guidance is intended for spills of 55 gallons or less. Review safety data sheet with specific concerns related to the spilled material and for guidance regarding personal protective equipment.

Any organic peroxide spill should be attended to immediately to avoid the risks of chemical reactions which may result in fire or explosion, as well as the possible contamination of soil and/or water. Contact your organic peroxide supplier prior to acting, if there are any questions regarding safety issues. It is recommended that “spill kits” be available in all areas in which organic peroxide products are stored and used. The spill kit should be comprised of non-sparking clean-up tools, plastic garbage bags, closeable plastic containers, hazardous material labels, and a source of water.

Liquid spills can normally be handled by spreading an inert absorbent material such as sodium bicarbonate, or sand directly on the spill, then wetting down the mixture with water. Please note materials such as sawdust, peat moss and kitty litter (e.g. Oil-Dri ®) should not be used. The mixture of the spilled organic peroxide and the inert absorbent material should be swept up using non-sparking tools and placed in polyethylene bags for disposal. NOTE: A supply of suitable inert absorbent should be kept available for this purpose in areas where organic peroxides are used.

The sweepings in the polyethylene bag should be wetted down further, with water, and disposed of immediately by an approved disposal company. Please refer to plasticsindustry.org/oppsd for links to disposal companies and the liquid organic peroxide disposal guide.

If stored for any period of time, the recovered materials should be stored consistent with the product’s SADT and storage requirements. Do not put recovered materials back in the warehouse to control for temperature; cool first prior returning to the warehouse. Appropriately label recovered materials as hazardous waste.

After all the material has been picked up, wash down the spill area with surfactant and water to remove any traces of organic peroxide. Allow for sufficient ventilation to aid in the removal of fumes that may be present.

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