

SAFETY ALERT

TRI – Eye Injury while handling a powder admixture

DETAILS OF THE INCIDENT

The employee was emptying bags with powder admixture into a bucket. While tearing open the packaging, some of the powder got into the employee's eye despite wearing protective safety glasses. First aid was provided to the injured person immediately after the incident. Afterwards the IP was transported to an ophthalmology clinic. The employee suffered temporary degradation of eyesight.

KEY FINDINGS

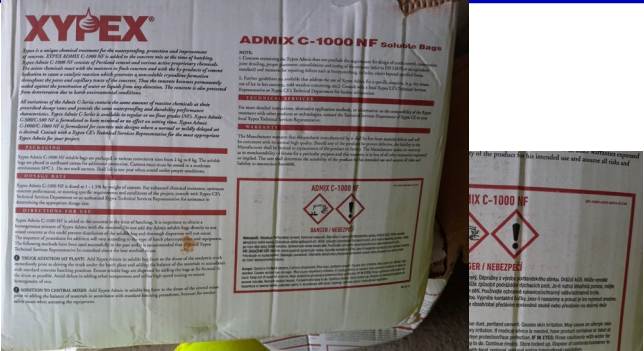
✓	The employee had valid all required training in terms of safety.
✓	The employee was wearing normal safety glasses at the time of accident.
✗	The work glasses did not fulfill requirements of ISO 16321-1 in terms of requirements for penetration of fine particles.
•	Using sealed glasses or goggles for this activity was not required by producer work instructions or admixture packing.
✗	The IP was not familiar with safe procedure because producer work instructions or SOP were not available for this activity at the plant. The only instructions available at the plant were in a foreign language.
•	According to the producer work instructions is not necessary to open bags for dosing the admixture into a mixer or mixer truck. The admixture is delivered in bags solvable in water.
✗	The IP was opening bags because of customer complaints in terms of quality. The IP did not forward this information to his superior or quality department.

HOW COULD THIS HAVE BEEN AVOIDED

- When handling additives or other hazardous substances, follow the manufacturer's instructions or safety data sheet. If you find that the workplace lacks usage instructions, record it as NMHA and inform your supervisor.
- Use the correct prescribed PPE – protective safety glasses / sealed goggles.

KEY REVIEW POINTS

- Make sure that safety data sheets and the manufacturer's handling procedures for hazardous substances are available at the workplace.
- Verify that provided instructions are clear and understandable for workers.
- Check that first aid kits are located at workplaces where hazardous substances are used.



Instructions in a foreign language



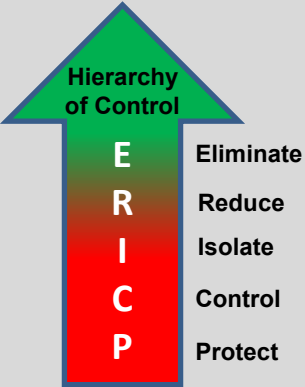
The work glasses that IP was wearing at the time of accident



The admixture in a solvable bag



The example of sealed goggles that fulfils requirements of ISO 16321-1



Safe Systems

Follow safe systems of work, site rules, signage and traffic signals.

Incident/Hazard alerts

Report all incidents/hazards immediately.

Personal Protective Equipment

Always wear the correct PPE.



STOP THINK ACT