

Toolbox Talk

53. Petrol and Petroleum Products



What?

- Petroleum products are made by refining (changing) crude oil (also called Petroleum) into more useful products. They are extracted from fractional distillation of petroleum, a fossil fuel where the petroleum is heated to a very high temperature and the products start to separate out and include: Gasoline, Diesel fuel and Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) as well other fuels, such as Fuel Oil, Kerosene, Asphalt, Paraffin Wax, Tar, Plastics, etc



Why?

- Most petroleum products are highly flammable and give off noxious and explosive gases
- Some of them are also carcinogens which means they can cause cancer if exposed over long periods and therefore great care needs to be taken when storing or using these products in the workplace



Do



- ✓ Read the label on containers, tins and follow the instructions
- ✓ Use correct storage containers
- ✓ Wear correct PPE when handling these products
- ✓ Replace lids and caps immediately after use
- ✓ Put containers etc in correct storage areas
- ✓ Make sure there is adequate ventilation
- ✓ Avoid sunlight and sources of ignition

Don't



- ✗ Smoke near petroleum products
- ✗ Leave in direct sunlight
- ✗ Pour down drains
- ✗ Use in confined spaces



NO SMOKING



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