



The ABCs of Pollution Prevention



A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U

Avoid chlorinated organic solvents; cyanide compounds; and petroleum-based compounds when there are water-based substitutes

Buy drainboards and drip pans to ensure drainage into process baths

Choose closed-loop (i.e., fully enclosed) recycling designs to reduce wastes and worker exposure

Decrease the frequency of equipment cleanings

Ensure a neat work environment to prevent spills of toxic chemicals

Foster a regular program of pollution prevention auditing

Give employees incentives to find new pollution prevention ideas

Have and use covers for all containers holding fluids that evaporate

Instruct employees in pollution prevention

Just use storage tanks with secondary containment (e.g., double-walled tanks), and have secondary containment in all loading and unloading areas to prevent uncontrolled releases

Keep track of toxic chemical inventories to ensure fewer containers on-site, thereby minimizing spills and spoilage

Label containers to prevent mistakes that could result in wastes requiring disposal

Monitor and maintain the appropriate temperature for heated materials

Never allow leaks to persist

Only use sprays when absolutely necessary, since they waste chemicals through dispersion (e.g., paint overspray)

Pre-clean parts with physical methods (e.g., squeegees, rags) before using solvents

Quit disposing of baths without checking bath quality, and restore quality through the use of additives

Reformulate or redesign final products so fewer toxic chemicals are used in production processes

Select continuous rather than batch processes whenever possible, to avoid start-up wastes

Try redesigning products so they require fewer toxic chemical constituents

Use machines in applications where human errors result in excessive wastes (e.g., precision mixing)

The ABCs of Pollution Prevention
ends with **U**. It also begins with **you**.

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