



NaCl



THE CHLORINE INSTITUTE, INC.

# Pamphlet 65

*Personal Protective  
Equipment for  
Chlor-Alkali Chemicals*



A RESPONSIBLE CARE®  
PARTNER ASSOCIATION

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Purpose

This pamphlet is intended to provide information pertaining to certain personal protective equipment used in the manufacture or handling of chlorine, sodium and potassium hydroxide, sodium hypochlorite, hydrochloric (muriatic) acid, sulfuric acid and anhydrous hydrogen chloride. Personal protective equipment includes both barrier clothing, such as chemical protective suits, boots, gloves, or face shield, and respiratory protection, such as Air Supply Respirators (ASRs) or Air Purifying Respirators (APRs).

### 1.2 Scope

The scope of this pamphlet includes most types of personal protective equipment (PPE) recommended for specific tasks and for emergency response in the manufacture and use of chlorine (liquid and gas), sodium and potassium hydroxide (10 - 50% by weight), sodium hypochlorite solutions (3 - 20% by weight), hydrochloric acid (7 - 37% by weight), sulfuric acid (38 - 98% by weight), and anhydrous hydrogen chloride (liquid and gas) all at temperatures below 120°F. Typically, sodium hypochlorite must be maintained below 100°F to minimize decomposition.

Exposure to these chemicals at elevated temperatures (> 120°F) may require additional personal protective equipment for thermal protection and to ascertain that the PPE used is suitable at such temperatures and is beyond the scope of this pamphlet. For those chemicals where a concentration is specified, the ranges shown have been selected because these concentrations represent those that are typically produced and are those that the members have the most experience. Concentrations greater than shown may require additional PPE. Concentration less than those shown may require comparable PPE. Users of concentrations outside the ranges listed in this pamphlet should seek other sources (e.g., the supplier) for recommended PPE.

Hearing protection, head protection (except for chemical exposure), and air purifying respiratory protection equipment used solely for escape purposes are examples of equipment not addressed. Hearing protection requirements vary from site to site and are based on an assessment of personnel exposure to high noise levels and are independent of the chemical(s) being manufactured. Similarly head protection requirements vary from site to site.

Because the nature of a potential hazardous condition and the duration of exposure by affected personnel will vary from site to site, each manufacturer/user should determine how the recommendations should be implemented at the individual facility.

Users of personal protective equipment should follow the use and maintenance recommendations of the safety equipment manufacturer. ASRs and APRs must be approved by the National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH). See Reference 1 (NIOSH Certified Equipment List) and Reference 2 (29 CFR 1910.134). The user should ascertain that the personal protective equipment is suitable for protecting personnel from the chemical(s) being handled.

The reader is referred to Institute publications Pamphlet 125 (Reference 3) and Pamphlet 137 (Reference 4) for a discussion of personal protective equipment requirements pertaining to mercury or asbestos. Institute Pamphlet 139 (Reference 5) addresses personal protective equipment requirements pertaining to cell house electrical systems used in chlor-alkali operations. Institute Pamphlet 63 (Reference 6) addresses first aid and medical management of personnel exposed to chlorine. Institute Pamphlet 126 (Reference 7) addresses medical surveillance and hygiene monitoring practices for personnel in chlor-alkali manufacturing facilities potentially exposed to chlorine.

### 1.3 Responsible Care

The Institute is an American Chemistry Council (ACC) Responsible Care® Partnership Association. In this capacity, the Institute is committed to: Fostering the adoption by its members of the Codes of Management Practices; facilitating their implementation; and encouraging members to join the Responsible Care® initiative directly.

Chlorine Institute members who are not ACC members are encouraged to follow the elements of similar responsible care programs through other associations such as the National Association of Chemical Distributors' (NACD) Responsible Distribution Program or the Canadian Chemical Manufacturers Association's Responsible Care® program.

### 1.4 Abbreviations

ACGIH	-	American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists
AIHA	-	American Industrial Hygiene Association
ANSI	-	American National Standards Institute
APR	-	Air Purifying Respirator
ASTM	-	American Society for Testing and Materials
ASR	-	Air Supply Respirator
CFR	-	Code of Federal Regulations
EPA	-	Environmental Protection Agency
ERPG	-	Emergency Response Planning Guidelines (AIHA)
HMS	-	Hazardous Materials Specialist
HMT	-	Hazardous Materials Technician
IDLH	-	Immediately Dangerous to Life or Health (NIOSH)
JSA	-	Job Safety Analysis
mg/m <sup>3</sup>	-	milligrams per cubic meter

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NFPA	-	National Fire Protection Association
NIOSH	-	National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health
OSHA	-	Occupational Safety and Health Administration
PEL	-	Permissible Exposure Limit (OSHA)
PPE	-	Personal Protective Equipment
ppm	-	Parts Per Million
Per Cent (%)	-	In this pamphlet, it always refers to weight per cent
PSM	-	Process Safety Management
REL	-	Recommended Exposure Limit (NIOSH)
SCBA	-	Self Contained Breathing Apparatus
STEL	-	Short Term Exposure Limit
TLV	-	Threshold Limit Value (ACGIH)
TWA	-	Time Weighted Average
USCG	-	United States Coast Guard
WEEL	-	Workplace Environmental Exposure Level Guides (AIHA)

#### 1.5 Disclaimer

The information in this pamphlet is drawn from sources believed to be reliable. The Chlorine Institute and its members, jointly and severally, make no guarantee, and assume no liability, in connection with any of this information. Moreover, it should not be assumed that every acceptable procedure is included or that special circumstances may not warrant modified or additional procedures. The user should be aware that changing technology may require a change in the recommendations herein. Appropriate steps should be taken to ensure that the information is current when used. These suggestions should not be confused with federal, state, provincial, municipal, or insurance requirements, or with national safety codes.

#### 1.6 Approval

The Institute's Plant Operations and Safety Committee approved the Fourth Edition of this pamphlet on October 2, 2001.

#### 1.7 Revisions

Suggestions for revisions should be directed to the Secretary of the Chlorine Institute.

## 1.8 Reproduction

The contents of this pamphlet are not to be copied for publication, in whole or part, without prior Chlorine Institute permission.

## 2. **CHEMICALS AND THEIR PHYSIOLOGICAL EFFECTS**

### 2.1 Exposure Level Guidelines

OSHA has established Permissible Exposure Limits (PELs) (Reference 2 - 29 CFR 1910.1000 - 1910.1052) for regulating employee exposure to numerous chemicals. Similarly, ACGIH has established Threshold Limit Value (TLV) guidelines (Reference 8) and NIOSH has developed Recommended Exposure Limits (REL) (Reference 9). These may be expressed as TWAs, STELs, Ceilings, or a combination.

#### 2.1.1 TWA

TWA is the employee's average airborne exposure in any 8-hour shift of a 40 hour work week which should not be exceeded.

#### 2.1.2 STEL

STEL is the employee's 15 minute time weighted average exposure which should not be exceeded at any time during a work day. In some cases a STEL of another time limit (e.g. STEL (30)) may be specified.

#### 2.1.3 Ceiling

Ceiling is the employee's exposure which shall not be exceeded during any part of the work day. If instantaneous monitoring is not feasible, then the ceiling shall be assessed as a 15-minute TWA which shall not be exceeded at any time over a working day.

#### 2.1.4 IDLH (NIOSH)

IDLH represents the maximum concentration from which, in the event of respiratory equipment failure, one could escape within 30 minutes without a respirator and without experiencing any escape-impairing (e.g. severe eye irritation) or irreversible health effects.

#### 2.1.5 ERPGs

The American Industrial Hygiene Association (Reference 10) has developed Emergency Response Planning Guideline values which are intended to provide estimates of concentration ranges where one reasonably might anticipate observing adverse effects as described in the definitions for ERPG-1, ERPG-2 and ERPG-3 as a consequence of exposure to the specific substance.



ERPG-1: The maximum airborne concentration below which it is believed nearly all individuals could be exposed for up to one hour without experiencing more than mild transient adverse health effects or without perceiving a clearly defined, objectionable odor.

ERPG-2: The maximum airborne concentration below which it is believed nearly all individuals could be exposed for up to one hour without experiencing or developing irreversible or other serious health effects or symptoms that could impair an individual's ability to take protective action.

ERPG-3: The maximum airborne concentration below which it is believed nearly all individuals could be exposed for up to one hour without experiencing or developing life-threatening health effects.

## 2.2 Physiological Effects of Chlorine

### 2.2.1 General

Chlorine is a potential irritant to the eyes, skin, mucous membranes, and the respiratory system. The primary concerns with exposure to chlorine are the respiratory system followed by the eyes. The impact of exposure to chlorine is both concentration and time dependent. (Reference 6 is one of several sources providing more information on the health effects of exposure to chlorine.) The following table summarizes health effects to humans:

<u>Exposure Level (ppm)</u>	<u>Effect</u>
0.02 - 0.2	Odor threshold (varies with individuals)
Less than 0.5	No known acute or chronic effect.
0.5	TLV - TWA REL - Ceiling
1	PEL - Ceiling TLV - STEL ERPG-1
1-10	Irritation of the eyes and mucous membranes of the upper respiratory tract. Severity of the symptoms dependent on the concentration and length of the exposure.
3	ERPG-2
10	IDLH
20	ERPG-3

Proper personal protective equipment must be utilized to protect against these harmful effects. This pamphlet provides personal protective equipment recommendations for specific tasks.

### 2.2.2 Non Respiratory Effects of Exposure to Gaseous Chlorine

Gaseous chlorine absorbs in water to form both hypochlorous and hydrochloric acids. Chlorine gas can dissolve in body moisture (i.e., perspiration) to form these acids. At 3,500 ppm chlorine in air, the pH of moisture on the skin would be approximately 4. A pH of 4 is comparable to carbonated water. While a burning sensation and skin irritation can occur due to such exposure, a review of the literature has provided no specific human data to determine the concentration of chlorine required to produce such effects. As previously stated, irritation of the eye, when exposed to gaseous chlorine, begins to occur at the 1-10 ppm level.

### 2.2.3 Non Respiratory Effects of Exposure to Liquid Chlorine

Liquid chlorine is a liquified compressed gas. At atmospheric pressure, liquid chlorine vaporizes at  $-34^{\circ}\text{C}$  ( $-29^{\circ}\text{F}$ ). Typically, chlorine is stored in vessels as a liquid at atmospheric or elevated pressures. Liquid chlorine will cause eye and skin burns upon contact, similar to frostbite.

### 2.2.4 After Exposure to Chlorine

If liquid chlorine contacts the skin or penetrates through the clothing, immediately flush the affected area with water for at least 15 minutes. Care should be exercised when removing the protective clothing after use to avoid inhalation of chlorine from the contaminated clothing. Medical attention may be necessary for any personnel exposed (by inhalation or skin contact) to liquid or gaseous chlorine. References 6 and 7 provide more specific information concerning such treatment.

## 2.3 Physiological Effects of Sodium and Potassium Hydroxide (10 - 50 wt %)

### 2.3.1 General

Sodium and potassium hydroxide (NaOH and KOH) solutions are classified as corrosives and can cause mild to severe irritation of the eyes, mucous membranes (nose, sinus, throat, and lungs), and skin. Exposure can occur by both direct contact with aqueous caustic solutions or entrained mists and aerosols. The degree of irritation or cell damage is related to both the concentration and temperature of the hydroxide solution and the duration of the exposure.

### 2.3.2 Sodium Hydroxide

Exposure to caustic solutions, mists, or aerosols at concentrations as low as 5% NaOH can cause severe skin irritation and/or burns. The severity can be reduced by prompt flushing of the affected areas with copious amounts of water and obtaining immediate medical attention. Ingestion of liquid sodium hydroxide solutions can cause severe burns to the mucous membranes of the mouth, throat, esophagus, and stomach. The following table summarizes health effects upon humans:

<u>Exposure Level (mg/m<sup>3</sup>)</u>	<u>Effect</u>
0.5	ERPG - 1
0.5-2	minor respiratory irritation
1	mild watering of the eyes
2	REL - Ceiling TLV - Ceiling
>2	may cause damage to upper respiratory tract
5	ERPG - 2
10	IDLH
50	ERPG-3
1% aqueous solution	eye irritation
5% aqueous solution	can cause severe skin irritation and/or burns

### 2.3.3 Potassium Hydroxide

There are limited data to definitively establish exposure/effect information for potassium hydroxide. It is believed that the allowable limits established for sodium hydroxide generally can be applied to potassium hydroxide. See Section 2.3.2.

## 2.4 Physiological Effects of Sodium Hypochlorite (3 - 20 wt %)

### 2.4.1 General

Sodium Hypochlorite (NaOCl) solutions are classified as a corrosive by the United States Department of Transportation and is a mild to severe irritant to the eyes, skin, mucous membranes, and the respiratory system. Exposure can occur by both direct contact with sodium hypochlorite solutions or entrained mists and aerosols. The primary concerns with exposure to sodium hypochlorite solution are with the eyes, followed by the mucous membranes, the respiratory system and the skin. The impact of exposure to sodium hypochlorite is dependent on the concentration of the solution, amount of excess sodium hydroxide contained in the solution and the time in contact with the effected parts of the body.

Contact with solutions of sodium hypochlorite can cause eye irritation. Increasing concentrations and amount of excess sodium hydroxide in the solution can cause severe irritation and/or burns and possible blindness. Sodium hypochlorite solutions, mists, or aerosols can also cause skin irritations. The severity can be reduced by prompt flushing of the affected areas with copious amounts of water and obtaining immediate medical attention.

Ingestion of sodium hypochlorite solution can cause severe burns to the mucous membranes of the mouth, throat, esophagus, and stomach. Breathing mist or spray can cause damage to the upper respiratory tract and lungs which could lead to chemical pneumonia, depending on the severity of the exposure.

Neither a PEL or TLV has been established. The American Industrial Hygiene Association (AIHA) recommends a Workplace Environmental Exposure Level (WEEL) Guide for Sodium Hypochlorite Solutions at 2 mg/m<sup>3</sup>, 15-minute time-weighted average exposure. The predominant chlorine-like odor associated with sodium hypochlorite is hypochlorous acid for which there are no established exposure limits. The exposure limits for chlorine may be considered as applicable in many circumstances.

## 2.5 Physiological Effects of Hydrochloric (Muriatic) Acid (7 - 37 wt %)

Hydrochloric acid solutions are corrosive. Skin contact with the liquid may result in dermatitis and deep burns. Eye contact may result in burns and permanent injury. Inhalation causes irritation of the respiratory tract and inflammation of the lungs may result. Ingestion may result in severe gastric irritation including nausea, vomiting and severe pain. Ulceration and perforation of the G.I. tract may also occur. Severe inhalation overexposure to hydrochloric acid may cause pulmonary edema (abnormal accumulation of fluid),

laryngeal spasms and laryngeal edema. The following table summarizes health effects upon humans:

<u>Exposure Level (ppm)</u>	<u>Effect</u>
0.2 - 0.8	Odor threshold (varies with individuals)
3	ERPG - 1
5	PEL - Ceiling REL - Ceiling TLV - Ceiling
5 - 10	Immediately Irritating
20	ERPG - 2

50

IDLH

150

ERPG - 3

2.6 Physiological Effects of Sulfuric Acid (38 - 98 wt %)

Sulfuric acid is an odorless chemical that can quickly cause second and third degree burns with severe necrosis (tissue death). Repeated and/or prolonged exposure to mists may cause irritation with itching, burning, redness, swelling, or rash. Exposure to mists may cause irritation of the nose and throat with sneezing, sore throat or runny nose, and non-specific effects such as headache, nausea, and weakness. Overexposure may cause irritation of the nose, throat, and lungs with cough, difficulty breathing or shortness of breath

or pulmonary edema. Symptoms may be delayed. The ACGIH lists sulfuric acid contained in strong inorganic acid mists as a suspected human carcinogen (Reference 8). Sulfuric acid in contact with the eye may cause corrosion, ulceration, and may result in blindness. Repeated and/or prolonged exposure to mists may cause eye irritation with tearing, pain, or blurred vision. Prompt flushing of the eyes with copious amounts of water and seeking immediate medical attention can reduce the severity. Ingestion of sulfuric acid can cause severe burns of the mouth, throat, esophagus, and stomach, with severe pain, bleeding, vomiting, diarrhea, and collapse of blood pressure. Symptoms may be delayed up to 48 hours.

The severity of any skin or eye exposure to sulfuric acid can be reduced by prompt flushing of the affected areas with copious amounts of water. Immediate medical attention should be obtained for any personnel exposed (by inhalation, skin or eye contact) to sulfuric acid. The following table summarizes health effects upon humans:

<u>Exposure Level (mg/m<sup>3</sup>)</u>	<u>Effect</u>
1	PEL - TWA REL - TWA TLV - TWA
2	ERPG - 1
3	TLV - STEL
10	ERPG - 2
15	IDLH
30	ERPG - 3

#### 2.6.1 Sulfuric Acid Mist

Because sulfuric acid mist is listed as a suspended carcinogen and because the Chlorine Institute has limited knowledge of this chemical which is not an Institute mission chemical, a simple laboratory test was conducted to measure the concentration of sulfuric acid over a liquid pool.

An open container filled with concentrated sulfuric acid having a surface area of 104 square inches was placed in a closed booth. An air sample was collected at approximately 6 inches above the sulfuric acid. The sample was collected in a lab hood with minimal air flow. The following are 8 hour TWA results:

Samples tested at 70°F 6" above container	Sulfuric Acid Concentration - mg/m <sup>3</sup> 0.09
Samples tested at 120°F 6" above container	Sulfuric Acid Concentration - mg/m <sup>3</sup> 0.23

These results would indicate that without higher temperatures or something to create mists (agitation, pressure, etc) - the level of sulfuric acid in a breathing zone should not be expected to be above 1 mg/m<sup>3</sup>.

**Note - These results may not apply to confined spaces or other areas where air circulation might be different than in the laboratory experiment.**

## 2.7 Physiological Effects of Anhydrous Hydrogen Chloride (AHCl)

### 2.7.1 General

Due to its high water solubility, gaseous anhydrous hydrogen chloride (AHCl) dissolves quickly in water to form hydronium ions (H<sub>3</sub>O<sup>+</sup>) (Reference 17). Consequently, AHCl is an irritant to the eyes, skin, mucous membranes, and the respiratory system. The primary concerns with exposure to AHCl are the respiratory system followed by the eyes. The following table summarizes health effects upon humans:

<u>Exposure Level</u> (ppm)	<u>Effect</u>
0.2 - 0.8	odor threshold (varies with individuals)
3	ERPG-1
5	PEL - Ceiling REL - Ceiling TLV - Ceiling
5-10	immediately irritating
20	ERPG -2
50	IDLH
150	ERPG-3

Proper personal protective equipment must be utilized to protect against these harmful effects. This pamphlet provides personal protective equipment recommendations for specific tasks.

### 2.7.2 Non Respiratory Effects of Exposure to Gaseous AHCl

Due to its high water solubility, gaseous AHCl will dissolve in any liquid contacting the body, including sweat, saliva and tears. Exposures, other than minor, may result in severe burns to the skin and eyes. Minor exposure may result in a burning sensation and skin or eye irritation. While a burning sensation and skin or eye irritation can occur due to such exposure, a review of the literature has provided no specific human data to determine the concentration of AHCl required to produce such effects. Irritation of the eye, when exposed to gaseous AHCl, begins to occur at the 1-10 ppm level.

### 2.7.3 Exposure to Liquid AHCl

Liquid anhydrous hydrogen chloride is a chilled compressed gas. At atmospheric pressure, liquid anhydrous hydrogen chloride vaporizes at  $-85^{\circ}\text{C}$  ( $-121^{\circ}\text{F}$ ). Typically, AHCl is stored in vessels as a liquid at atmospheric or elevated pressures. Liquid AHCl will cause eye and skin burns upon contact, similar to frostbite.

### 2.7.4 After Exposure to AHCl

If liquid AHCl contacts the skin or penetrates through the clothing, immediately flush the affected area with water for at least 15 minutes. Care should be exercised when removing the protective clothing after use to avoid inhalation of HCL from the contaminated clothing. Immediate medical attention should be obtained for any personnel exposed (by inhalation or skin contact) to liquid or gaseous AHCl. Respiratory symptoms, including pulmonary edema, may be delayed. Persons receiving significant exposure should be observed 24-48 hours for signs of respiratory distress. As appropriate, qualified personnel should administer oxygen.

## 3. REGULATIONS

The following OSHA regulations (Reference 2) have potential application in chlor-alkali production facilities and other facilities using the chemicals discussed in this pamphlet.

29 CFR 1910.95 - Occupational Noise Exposure

29 CFR 1910.119 - Process Safety Management of Highly Hazard Chemicals

29 CFR 1910.120 - Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response

29 CFR 1910.132 - General Requirements (PPE)

29 CFR 1910.133 - Eye and Face Protection

29 CFR 1910.134 - Respiratory Protection

29 CFR 1910.135 - Occupational Head Protection

29 CFR 1910.136 - Occupational Foot Protection

29 CFR 1910.137 - Electrical Protective Devices

29 CFR 1910.138 - Hand Protection

29 CFR 1910.156 - Fire Brigades

29 CFR 1910.1000 - 1910.1052 - Air Contaminants

29 CFR 1910.1030 - Bloodborne Pathogens

29 CFR 1910.1200 - Hazard Communications



#### 4. PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT SELECTION

The information contained in Sections 5-10 provide personal protective equipment recommendations only for the specific chemical discussed. The facility should also specify other PPE requirements that are site specific and protect against other hazards that may be encountered on the job. These requirements may include PPE such as hard hats, safety glasses, gloves, protective clothing and safety-toed shoes.

##### 4.1 General

This pamphlet covers the recommended PPE for performing the following tasks in a production or use facility producing, using, or otherwise handling the chemicals listed in Section 1.2.

- P Initial Line Break**
- P Material Sampling**
- P Loading/Unloading**
- P Emergency Response**

These recommendations assume that the facility has written operating and maintenance procedures including an emergency response plan (Reference 11) and has trained its employees in these procedures. OSHA Regulations (29CFR 1910.132, Reference 2) require that the employer conduct a hazard assessment and equipment selection to determine if hazards are present, or likely to be present, that would necessitate the use of PPE. If such hazards are present, or likely to be present, the employee needs to select the appropriate PPE, communicate the selection decision with each affected employee, and verify the assessment has been performed through written certification. Facilities covered by the OSHA PSM rule need to develop procedures in accordance with 29 CFR 1910.119 (References 2 and 12).

These recommendations also assume the facility has not performed a detailed job safety analysis (JSA) of the specific task being performed. If such a detailed job safety analysis is performed and documented, and it concludes that a different level of personal protective equipment will protect the employee(s) performing the work, such different level of PPE is fully compatible with the purposes and intent of these recommendations.

The OSHA regulation 29 CFR 1910.134 addressing respiratory protection (Reference 2) states, in part, the following:

"(a) *Permissible practice.* (1) In the control of those occupational diseases caused by breathing air contaminated with harmful dusts, fogs, fumes, mists, gases, smokes, sprays, or vapors, the primary objective shall be to prevent atmospheric contamination. This shall be accomplished as far as feasible by accepted engineering control measures (for example, enclosure or confinement of the operation, general and local ventilation, and substitution of less toxic materials). When effective engineering controls are not feasible, or while they are being instituted, appropriate respirators shall be used pursuant to the following requirements."

Chemical burn injuries have occurred to employees after completing the assigned task while removing the PPE. Section 11.2 discusses the decontamination of PPE after completing the assigned task. It is extremely important (especially with the acid and alkaline liquids) that the PPE is washed thoroughly with water prior to removal to prevent dripping of the liquid on a body part that was protected by the PPE while performing the task.

**Initial line break**, as used in this pamphlet, is defined as the **first time opening** of a line or a section of a line, a vessel, other equipment such as a compressor or pump that previously contained the specified chemical. Initial line break is considered a maintenance activity and does not include (1) material sampling activities or (2) connecting or disconnecting of containers for loading/unloading purposes.

Chemical burn injuries have occurred to maintenance employees working on process equipment after the initial line break has occurred. In such cases, the employees have been exposed to the chemicals contained in the process because the equipment was not or could not be decontaminated prior to commencing the maintenance activity. Accordingly, it is recommended that such maintenance employees wear the same PPE as recommended for the initial line break until the equipment has been decontaminated and verified.

**Material sampling**, as used in this pamphlet, is the collection of the specified chemical for the purpose of performing a chemical analysis, for retention, or other purpose. Recommendations for material sampling assume no site engineered sampling stations have been constructed. Such sampling stations may preclude the need for some of the PPE recommendations. In such situations, a job analysis should be performed to determine, among other things, the required PPE.

**Loading/unloading**, as used in this pamphlet, is defined as the connecting or disconnecting of hoses/piping and the opening/closing of loading/unloading valves on shipping equipment containing the specified chemicals. As used in this pamphlet, a shipping container includes barges, railroad tank cars, tank motor vehicles, ton containers, cylinders with a minimum net weight of 100 pounds, and drums with a minimum volume of 30 gallons. Smaller sized containers are beyond the scope of this pamphlet. Loading/unloading does not include the periodic inspection/monitoring of the container and associated equipment during the loading/unloading activity.

**Emergency response**, as used in this pamphlet, refers to the OSHA definition (1910.120 - Reference 2). The OSHA definition is as follows:

*"Emergency response or responding to emergencies means a response effort by employees from outside the immediate release area or by other designated responders (i.e., mutual-aid groups, local fire departments, etc.) to an occurrence which results, or is likely to result, in an uncontrollable release of a hazardous substance. Responses to incidental releases of hazardous substances where the substance can be absorbed, neutralized, or*

otherwise controlled at the time of release by employees in the immediate release area, or by maintenance personnel are not considered to be emergency responses within the scope of this standard. Responses to releases of hazardous substances where there is no potential safety or health hazards (i.e., fire, explosion, or chemical exposure) are not considered to be emergency responses."

Responses to incidental releases should be addressed by operating/maintenance procedures for individual facilities. Such procedures need to be consistent with OSHA PPE guidance as discussed in 29 CFR 1910.132 - 138 (subpart I) (Reference 2).

The overall emergency response coordinator (Incident Commander) should be given appropriate authority to modify any requirements after assessing the situation. Where applicable, the OSHA regulation [29 CFR 1910.120(q)(3) (Reference 2)] gives this individual (designated as the individual in charge of the incident command system) such authority (within limits) to do so. The Institute recommends that the facility's Emergency Response Plan specify the extent of such authority.

#### 4.2 Bases for Recommendations

The recommendations contained in this pamphlet are based in part on the assumption that workers performing certain tasks and those responding to a specific chemical release may encounter a concentration at or above that designated by the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health as immediately dangerous to life or health (IDLH). In addition to the assumptions stated in Section 4.1, these recommendations also assume that no other hazardous chemicals requiring more stringent requirements will be encountered by the emergency responders. This pamphlet is not intended to cover fire fighting operations. OSHA has additional specific requirements [29 CFR 1910.156(e) (Reference 2)] for such operations.

The recommendations contained in this pamphlet are designed to protect specific parts of the body (e.g., head, neck, face, eyes, hands, arms, feet, legs, trunk, and respiratory system.). Tables are provided at the end of Sections 5 -10 that list recommended PPE to protect these body parts.

While there are numerous PPE alternatives for protecting the eyes against exposure, the Institute believes that face shields with or without safety glasses do not, by themselves, provide sufficient protection against exposure to liquids. ANSI Standard Z 87.1-1989 states that "Faceshields are secondary protection and shall be used only with primary protection." (Reference 18) Accordingly, whenever a face shield is recommended to protect the face, the Institute also recommends chemical protective goggles to protect the eyes.

Several of the tasks discussed in this pamphlet include PPE recommendations for protection of the head. For some tasks discussed, PPE recommendations include chemical protection of the head and neck. As discussed in this pamphlet, protection of the head includes the top of the head, but not the front or the back. Face and eye protection are needed to protect the front of the head. A hood or comparable PPE is needed to protect the back of the head and neck. A hood can also serve to protect the top of the head. A hood with an integral face mask serves to also protect the face and eyes. A "hard hat"

typically used to protect the top of the head from impact can provide chemical protection for the top of the head if of suitable design. A suitably designed hat in combination with a face shield and chemical splash goggles can serve to protect the head, face and eyes.

#### 4.3 Levels of Protection

In the United States, OSHA has developed guidelines [29 CFR 1910.120, Appendix B (Reference 2)] for an employer to use to select the appropriate PPE for emergency response. The guidelines point out that site information may suggest the use of combinations of PPE selected from the four different protection levels discussed in the OSHA guidelines as being more suitable to the hazards of the work. For example, the Chlorine Institute defines and recommends an Enhanced Level B protection in certain situations.

Based on the experience of its members, the Chlorine Institute has developed Enhanced Level B recommendations as initial selection criteria for personal protective equipment for specific work tasks and for responders to certain chemical releases involving liquid chlorine, hydrochloric acid, sulfuric acid, and anhydrous hydrogen chloride. While these recommendations are intended to provide guidance to facilities in general, a facility may choose to alter these recommendations after review of site specific hazards.

Furthermore, it is pointed out in the OSHA guidelines that the listing "does not fully address the performance of specific PPE material in relation to the specific hazards at the job site, and that PPE selection, evaluation and re-selection is an ongoing process until sufficient information about the hazards and PPE performance is obtained."

Whenever the air supply respirator option, as discussed below, is selected, such equipment should be used with appropriate full face piece and an auxiliary self-contained air supply (escape air provision). Appendix 14.3 further discusses this option.

The types of hazards for which levels A, Enhanced B, B, C, and D protection are appropriate are discussed below.

! Level A protection should be used when:

- " The hazardous substance has been identified and requires the highest level of protection for skin, eyes, and respiratory system based on either the measured (or potential for) high concentration of atmospheric vapors, gases, or particulates; or the site operations and work functions involve a high potential for splash, immersion or exposure to unexpected vapors, gases, or particulates of materials that are harmful to skin or capable of being absorbed through the skin;
- " Substances with a high degree of hazard to the skin are known or suspected to be present, and skin contact is possible; or
- " Operations are being conducted in confined, poorly ventilated areas, and the absence of conditions requiring Level A have not yet been determined.

! Enhanced Level B should be used when:

" The hazardous substance has been identified and requires a high level of respiratory protection as in Levels A and B. Skin protection greater than that required by Level B but less than Level A is appropriate. Enhanced Level B protection is appropriate for exposure to several of the chemicals discussed and explained in the following sections.

The Institute defines its Enhanced Level B protection as follows:

P Positive pressure, full face self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) or air supply respirator (ASR) with an auxiliary self-contained air supply (escape air provision)

P Protective clothing including the following items:

- chemical protective suit
- footwear or footwear cover
- hood (for protection of head and neck)
- undergarments to provide thermal protection for exposure to liquid chlorine and anhydrous hydrogen chloride

Enhanced Level B protection provides fully encapsulated protective equipment, but is not gas tight.

! Level B protection should be used when:

" The type and atmospheric concentration of substances have been identified and require a high level of respiratory protection, but less skin protection;

" The atmosphere contains less than 19.5 percent oxygen; or

" The presence of incompletely identified vapors or gases is indicated, but vapors and gases are not suspected of containing high levels of chemicals harmful to skin or capable of being absorbed through the skin.

***NOTE: This involves atmospheres with IDLH concentrations of specific substances that present severe inhalation hazards and that do not represent a severe skin hazard; or that do not meet the criteria for use of air-purifying respirators.***

! Level C protection should be used when;

" The atmospheric contaminants, liquid splashes, or other direct contact will not adversely affect or be absorbed through any exposed skin;

- " The types of air contaminants have been identified, concentrations measured, and an air-purifying respirator is available that can remove the contaminants; and
  - " All criteria for the use of air-purifying respirators are met.
- ! Level D protection should be used when;
- " The atmosphere contains no known hazards; and
  - " Work functions preclude splashes, immersion, or the potential for unexpected inhalation of or contact with hazardous levels of any chemicals.

#### 4.4 Criteria for PPE Selection

The PPE recommended for the specific tasks should meet the criteria as listed in Table 4.1. Additional criteria for emergency response PPE selection criteria are discussed in the section for each chemical.

The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) (Reference 13) has developed standards addressing vapor-protective suits and liquid splash-protective suits for hazardous chemical emergencies and has issued standards for certification of certain PPE for emergency response personnel.

NFPA 1991 (Reference 13) provides criteria for vapor-protective and liquid splash protection ensembles for twenty-one chemicals. These chemicals include chlorine (gas), hydrogen chloride (gas), sodium hydroxide, and sulfuric acid. The NFPA standard does not include protection against liquid chlorine, potassium hydroxide, sodium hypochlorite, nor liquid anhydrous hydrogen chloride.

NFPA 1992 (Reference 13) provides criteria for liquid splash protective ensembles and clothing. PPE emergency response equipment certified as to meeting the applicable NFPA standard is in conformance with the recommendations of this pamphlet.

**TABLE 4.1 PPE COMPONENT SELECTION CRITERIA**

<b>COMPONENT</b>	<b>RECOMMENDED TEST</b>		
Chemical Protective Suit	I and V	or	I and II
Chemical Protective Gloves	I and V	or	I and II
Chemical Protective Boots	II	or	V
Hood	II	or	V
Face Shield	II	or	V
Chemical Splash Goggles	II	or	V
Ensemble System (everything)	III	or	IV

Recommended Test Name (Reference 14)

- I     ASTM D2136-94 - Standard Test Method for Coating Fabrics - Low Temperature Bend Test  
*Note - for testing against liquid chlorine, the test should be conducted at -30°F.*
- II    ASTM F739-99a - Standard Test Method for Resistance of Protective Clothing Materials to Permeation by Liquids and Gases Under Conditions of Continuous Contact  
*Note - The test should be conducted for sixty minutes and show no permeation.*
- III   ASTM F1359-99a - Standard Test Method for Liquid Penetration Resistance of Protective Clothing or Protective Ensembles Under a Shower Spray While on a Mannequin
- IV    ASTM F1052-97 - Standard Test Method for Pressure Testing Vapor Protective Ensembles (Applies to Level A)
- V     ASTM F903-99a - Standard Test Method of Materials Used in Protective Clothing to Penetration by Liquids  
***Note - The test should be conducted for sixty minutes and show no penetration.***

***Note - For all tests, NFPA 1993, Appendix C (Reference 13) provides further information on the test application and criteria.***

- !     Whenever Criterion I is recommended, this test should be performed prior to conducting other recommended criteria.
- !     The Institute believes Criterion V provides sufficient protection for workers performing the specified tasks involving potential exposure to the chemicals discussed in this pamphlet. Criterion II, a more stringent test, is shown because some vendors may prefer to perform this test.

## 5. PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT SELECTION - CHLORINE

As stated in Section 4.1, the recommendations in this pamphlet assume that the facility has not performed a detailed job safety analysis (JSA) of the specific task being performed. If such a detailed JSA of the specific task has been performed and documented, and it concludes that a different level of PPE will protect the employee(s) performing the work, such different levels of PPE are compatible with the purposes and intent of these recommendations.

This section covers the recommended PPE for performing the specified tasks involving chlorine liquid or gas below 120°F. See Tables 5.1 and 5.2.

### 5.1 Initial Line Break

If the specific initial line break currently being performed has been performed periodically in the past and it has been demonstrated that the evacuation techniques and the maintenance procedures utilized will result in chlorine concentrations no more than the capability of the respirator:

#### Recommendations:

- |                 |   |   |
|-----------------|---|---|
| Chlorine Gas    | - | Full face air purifying respirator approved for protection against chlorine |
| Chlorine Liquid | - | Full face air purifying respirator approved for protection against chlorine |
|                 |   | Gloves for thermal (cold) protection  |

If the above criteria have not been met:

#### Recommendations:

- |                 |   |  |
|-----------------|---|--|
| Chlorine Gas    | - | SCBA or full face air supply respirator with an auxiliary self-contained air supply (escape air provision) |
| Chlorine Liquid | - | Enhanced Level B   |

### 5.2 Material Sampling

If the specific sampling task has been periodically undertaken in the past and industrial hygiene sampling results demonstrated that the techniques being utilized may result in chlorine concentrations no more than the capability of the respirator:

#### Recommendations:

- |              |   |   |
|--------------|---|---|
| Chlorine Gas | - | Full face air purifying respirator approved for protection against chlorine |
|--------------|---|---|



- Chlorine Liquid - Full face air purifying respirator approved for protection against chlorine
- Gloves for thermal (cold) protection

If the above criteria have not been met:

Recommendations:

- Chlorine Gas - SCBA or full face air supply respirator with an auxiliary self-contained air supply (escape air provision)
- Chlorine Liquid - SCBA or full face air supply respirator with an auxiliary self-contained air supply (escape air provision) gloves for thermal (cold) protection

5.3 Loading/Unloading

***NOTE: Most shipping containers contain both liquid and gaseous chlorine. If such is the situation, the recommendation for chlorine liquid should be followed.***

In addition to the assumptions discussed in Section 4.1, the next recommendation assumes the facility has a system to allow for the purging and evacuation of the pipeline/hoses used for loading and unloading.

If the loading/unloading task being done has been periodically undertaken in the past and industrial hygiene sampling results demonstrated that the techniques being utilized may result in chlorine concentrations no more than the capability of the respirator:

Recommendations:

- Chlorine Gas - Full face respirator approved for protection against chlorine
- Chlorine Liquid - Full face respirator approved for protection against chlorine
- Gloves for thermal (cold) protection

If the above criteria have not been met:

Recommendations:

- Chlorine Gas - SCBA or full face air supply respirator with an auxiliary self-contained air supply (escape air provision)
- Chlorine Liquid - SCBA or full face air supply respirator with an auxiliary self-contained air supply (escape air provision)
- Gloves for thermal (cold) protection

#### 5.4 Emergency Response

In addition to the assumptions stated in 4.1, these recommendations also assume that no other hazardous materials requiring additional PPE would be encountered by the responders.

Through their collective experience the members of the Chlorine Institute have determined that Level B (not enhanced) protection (chemical resistant clothing) provides appropriate protection to emergency responders for gaseous chlorine releases. Unless it is designed to be self-sealing, the chemical-resistant clothing should be taped using chlorine compatible tape at the openings for the hands and feet. The PPE selected should meet specific criteria that the Institute believes are appropriate for emergency responders to gaseous chlorine as shown in Table 5.2.

The collective experience of the members of the Chlorine Institute is that a higher level of protection provides no additional measure of protection to emergency responders of gaseous chlorine releases when not entering a confined space; and, because of its bulkiness, increases the time required to stop the release. See Section 2.2.2.

Prior to an individual re-entering a gaseous chlorine release area after the refilling of any self contained breathing equipment tank, the individual should be interviewed by a knowledgeable person to verify that skin irritation has not occurred.

Through their collective experience the members of the Institute have determined that Enhanced Level B, as defined by the Institute in Section 4.2, provides appropriate protection to emergency responders for liquid chlorine releases.

##### Recommendations:

Chlorine Gas	-	Level B
Chlorine Liquid	-	Enhanced Level B

#### 5.5 Summary of Recommendations

Tables 5.1 and 5.2 summarize the recommendations contained in this section.

The Institute recognizes that a purchaser of Enhanced Level B PPE may opt to specify Level A PPE in order to reduce the different types of PPE held in inventory or to simplify the PPE selection process.

**TABLE 5.1 - SUMMARY OF PPE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR TASKS INVOLVING  
POTENTIAL EXPOSURE TO GASEOUS OR LIQUID CHLORINE**

	TASK PREVIOUSLY SAMPLED AND WITHIN RESPIRATORY LIMITATIONS	TASK NOT PREVIOUSLY SAMPLED OR SAMPLED AND ABOVE RESPIRATOR LIMITATIONS	
		GAS	LIQUID
<b>Initial line break</b>	FFR G	SCBA	Enhanced Level B
<b>Material Sampling</b>	FFR G	SCBA	SCBA G
<b>Loading/Unloading</b>	FFR G	SCBA	SCBA G
<b>Emergency Response</b>	WHEN LIQUID IS NOT INVOLVED = LEVEL B WHEN LIQUID IS INVOLVED = ENHANCED LEVEL B		

FFR = Full Face Air Purifying Respirator approved for protection against chlorine

G = Gloves for thermal (cold) protection)- Recommendation is for liquid only

SCBA = SCBA or Full Face Air Supply Respirator with an auxiliary self-contained air supply (escape air provision)

**TABLE 5.2 - RECOMMENDED CRITERIA TO EVALUATE SELECTED PPE COMPONENTS  
FOR TASKS INVOLVING LIQUID OR GASEOUS CHLORINE**

<b>PPE Component</b>	<b>Multi piece Enhanced Level B Chlorine Liquid</b>	<b>Hood for Multi piece Enhanced Level B Chlorine Liquid</b>	<b>One Piece Enhanced Level B Chlorine Liquid</b>	<b>Level A Chlorine Liquid</b>	<b>Level B Chlorine Gas</b>
<b>Base Material for Suit and Booties</b>	I and V or I and II	I and V or I and II	I and V or I and II	I and V or I and II	V or II
<b>Visor</b>	Not Applicable	I and V or I and II	Not Applicable	I and V or I and II	Not Applicable
<b>Gloves System</b>	I and V or I and II	Not Applicable	I and V or I and II	I and V or I and II	V or II
<b>Boots</b>	*	Not Applicable	*	Not Applicable	*
<b>Seams/Tape</b>	V or II	Not Applicable	V or II	V or II	V or II
<b>Ensemble System</b>	III	Not Applicable	III	IV	Not Applicable

- I ASTM D2136-94 modified to -30°F (low temperature flex text)
- II ASTM F739-99a (chemical resistance - permeation, no breakthrough in 60 minutes)
- III ASTM F1359-99a (shower test)
- IV ASTM F1052-97 (pressure test)
- V ASTM F903-99a (chemical resistance - penetration; no penetration in 60 minutes)

Table 4.1 and Reference 14 provide a further explanation of these tests.

**Notes:**

- \* ***Boots should be resistant to chlorine and consistent with the facility's foot protection policy.***

***Hood must be used with Multi piece Enhanced Level B.***

## 6. PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT SELECTION - SODIUM AND POTASSIUM HYDROXIDE (10 - 50 wt %)

As stated in Section 4.1, the recommendations in this pamphlet assume that the facility has not performed a detailed job safety analysis (JSA) of the specific task being performed. If such a detailed JSA of the specific task has been performed and documented, and it concludes that a different level of PPE will protect the employee(s) performing the work, such different levels of PPE are compatible with the purposes and intent of these recommendations.

This section covers the recommended PPE for performing the specified tasks involving sodium or potassium hydroxide at concentration between 10 - 50% at temperatures below 120°F. See Tables 6.1 and 6.2. Materials for PPE should be chemically resistant against 10-50% sodium or potassium hydroxide at 120°F or the applicable temperature and meet the criteria in Table 6.2.

Where sodium/potassium hydroxide products are being sampled/handled, and the product temperature is above 120°F, PPE for thermal protection may be necessary in addition to any chemical resistant PPE used. Contact a safety supply provider or a PPE manufacturer for proper PPE selection.

***Note: When chemical protective equipment is worn to protect the feet and body, and the garment has pant legs but does not have integral foot protection, the legs of the protective garment must be placed on the outside of the protective footwear.***

### 6.1 Initial Line Break

#### Recommendations:

! Chemical protection for the head, neck, face, eyes, hands, body, and feet.

### 6.2 Material Sampling

#### Recommendations:

! Chemical protection for the face, eyes, and the hands.

### 6.3 Loading

In addition to the assumptions discussed in Section 4.1, the PPE recommendations listed next assume the actual loading operation can be started and stopped while the employee is remote from the loading connection (i.e. the point that sodium or potassium hydroxide leaves the loading line and enters the loading container).

Recommendations:

Except while inspecting an open dome when no product is flowing:

! Chemical protection for the head, face, eyes, and hands

In the absence of such remotely operated equipment, the facility should follow the recommendations listed immediately below.

Recommendations:

! Chemical protection for the head, face, eyes, hands, body, and feet.

While inspecting an open dome when no product is flowing

! Chemical protection for the eyes

6.4 Unloading

Unloading a container of sodium or potassium hydroxide is deemed to be potentially more hazardous than the loading of such a container that is initiated by remote operations. Unloading such a container typically involves either pressurizing the container or installing connections at a valve located on the bottom of the container or inserting a pump into the container.

Recommendations:

Except while inspecting an open dome when no product is flowing

! Chemical protection for the head, face, eyes, hands, body, and feet.

While inspecting an open dome when no product is flowing

! Chemical protection for the eyes

6.5 Emergency Response

For a discussion of emergency response PPE guidelines, the reader is referred to Section 4.2. In addition to the assumptions stated in Section 4.1, these recommendations also assume that no other hazardous materials requiring additional PPE will be encountered by the emergency responders.

Based on the experience of its members, the Chlorine Institute has developed the following recommendations as initial selection criteria for personal protective equipment for responders to a sodium or potassium hydroxide release. The recommendations are based in part on the assumption that responders to a severe release involving spraying sodium or potassium hydroxide may encounter a concentration at or above that designated by the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health as immediately dangerous to life or health (the IDLH is 10 mg/m<sup>3</sup> as sodium hydroxide).

Recommendations:

! Chemical protection for the head, neck, face, eyes, hands, body, and feet.

Respiratory protection recommendations are as follows:

*In severe cases with spraying sodium or potassium hydroxide in a major leak:*

! SCBA or full face air supply respirator with an auxiliary self-contained air supply (escape air provision)

*In less severe cases such as a leaking valve or pipeline with no appreciable spraying and/or splashing product:*

! No respiratory protection is needed

This recommendation is based on the assumption that unless otherwise determined by the Incident Commander that the responders to such a sodium or potassium hydroxide release will not be exposed to concentrations in excess of 2 mg/m<sup>3</sup> in any 15 minute period.

## 6.6 Summary of Recommendations

Tables 6.1 and 6.2 summarize the recommendations contained in this section. Table 6.1 also includes specific examples of PPE that provide protection for specific body parts.



**TABLE 6.1 - SUMMARY OF PPE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR TASKS INVOLVING POTENTIAL EXPOSURE TO 10 - 50 % SODIUM OR POTASSIUM HYDROXIDE BELOW 120°F**

	<b>Chemical Protective Hat or Hood</b>	<b>Face Shield and Chemical Splash Goggles</b>	<b>Chemical Splash Goggles (without face shield)</b>	<b>Chemical Protective Suit</b>	<b>Chemical Protective Gloves</b>	<b>Chemical Protective Boots or Overshoes</b>	<b>Respiratory Protection</b>
<b>Initial line break *</b>	R	R		R	R	R	N/A
<b>Material sampling</b>	N/A	R		N/A	R	N/A	N/A
<b>Loading - remotely activated</b>	R	R		N/A	R	N/A	N/A
<b>Loading - not remotely activated</b>	R	R		R	R	R	N/A
<b>Unloading</b>	R	R		R	R	R	N/A
<b>Loading/Unloading - only when inspecting dome with no product flowing</b>	N/A	N/A	R	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>Emergency Response *</b>							
<b>Severe cases - spraying</b>	R	R		R	R	R	SCBA
<b>All others</b>	R	R		R	R	R	N/A

R = Recommended PPE for this task

N/A = This PPE is not believed necessary for this task

SCBA = SCBA or Full Face Air Supply Respirator with an auxiliary self-contained air supply (escape air provision)

\* **Chemical protection of the neck (e.g., hood) is also recommended for Initial line break and Emergency Response.**

**TABLE 6.2 - RECOMMENDED CRITERIA TO EVALUATE PPE  
COMPONENTS FOR TASKS INVOLVING 10 - 50 %  
SODIUM OR POTASSIUM HYDROXIDE**

PPE Component	Recommended Test
Base Material, Seam, Visor, Gloves, Boots, Overshoes	V or II performed at 120°F or applicable temperature
Ensemble System	III

II ASTM F739-99a (chemical resistance - permeation, no breakthrough in 60 minutes)

III ASTM F1359-99a (shower test)

V ASTM F903-99a (chemical resistance - penetration; no penetration in 60 minutes)

Table 4.1 and Reference 14 provide further explanation of these tests.

**Note:** *The appropriate shoe consistent with the facility's foot protection policy should be worn.*

## 7. PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT SELECTION- SODIUM HYPOCHLORITE (3 - 20 wt %)

As stated in Section 4.1, the recommendations in this pamphlet assume that the facility has not performed a detailed job safety analysis (JSA) of the specific task being performed. If such a detailed JSA of the specific task has been performed and documented, and it concludes that a different level of PPE will protect the employee(s) performing the work, such different levels of PPE are compatible with the purposes and intent of these recommendations.

This section covers the recommended PPE for performing the specified tasks involving sodium hypochlorite at concentrations between 3 - 20% at temperatures below 100°F. Typically, sodium hypochlorite must be maintained below 100°F to minimize decomposition. See Tables 4.1, 7.1, and 7.2. Materials for PPE should be chemically resistant against 3-20% sodium hypochlorite at 100°F or the applicable temperature and meet the criteria in Table 7.2.

***Note 1 - Respiratory equipment may be needed in situations where there is a risk of sodium hypochlorite mixing with acidic or other incompatible materials resulting in the release of chlorine gas.***

***Note 2 - When chemical protective equipment is worn to protect the feet and body, and the garment has pant legs but does not have integral foot protection, the legs of the protective garment must be placed on the outside of the protective footwear.***

### 7.1 Initial Line Break

#### Recommendations:

! Chemical protection for the head, face, eyes, hands, body, and feet.

### 7.2 Material Sampling

#### Recommendations:

! Chemical protection for the face, eyes, and the hands.

### 7.3 Loading

In addition to the assumptions discussed in Section 4.1, the PPE recommendations listed next assume the actual loading operation can be started and stopped while the employee is remote from the loading connection (i.e. the point that sodium hypochlorite leaves the loading line and enters the loading container).

Recommendations:

Except while inspecting an open dome when no product is flowing

! Chemical protection for the head, face, eyes, and hands

In the absence of such remotely operated equipment, the facility should follow the recommendations listed immediately below.

Recommendations:

! Chemical protection for the head, face, eyes, hands, body, and feet.

While inspecting an open dome when no product is flowing

! Chemical protection for the eyes

#### 7.4 Unloading

Unloading a container of sodium hypochlorite is deemed to be potentially more hazardous than the loading of such a container that is initiated by remote operations. Unloading such a container typically involves either pressurizing the container or installing connections at a valve located on the bottom of the container or inserting a pump into the container.

Recommendations:

Except while inspecting an open dome when no product is flowing

! Chemical protection for the head, face, eyes, hands, body, and feet.

While inspecting an open dome when no product is flowing

! Chemical protection for the eyes

#### 7.5 Emergency Response

For a discussion of emergency response guidelines, the reader is referred to Section 4.2. In addition to the assumptions stated in Section 4.1, these recommendations also assume that no other hazardous materials requiring additional PPE would be encountered by the responders.

Responders should be aware that sodium hypochlorite will react with acidic and other incompatible materials (e.g. ammonia, organics) resulting in the release of chlorine or other hazardous chemicals or a fire.

Recommendation:

- ! Chemical protection for the head, neck, face, eyes, hands, body, and feet.

Respiratory protection recommendations are as follows:

*In severe cases with spraying sodium hypochlorite in a major leak:*

- ! SCBA or full face air supply respirator with an auxiliary self-contained air supply (escape air provision)

*In less severe cases such as a leaking valve or pipeline with no appreciable spraying and/or splashing product:*

- ! No respiratory protection is needed.

This recommendation is based on the assumption that unless otherwise determined by the Incident Commander that the responders to a sodium hypochlorite release will not be exposed to concentrations of fumes or material in excess of 2 mg/m<sup>3</sup> in any 15 minute period.

7.6 Summary of Recommendations

Tables 7.1 and 7.2 summarize the recommendations contained in this section. Table 7.1 also includes specific examples of PPE that provide protection for specific body parts.

**TABLE 7.1 - SUMMARY OF PPE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR TASKS INVOLVING POTENTIAL EXPOSURE TO 3 - 20% SODIUM HYPOCHLORITE BELOW 100°F**

	Chemical Protective Hat or Hood	Face Shield & Chemical Splash Goggles	Chemical Splash Goggles (without face shield)	Chemical Protective Suit	Chemical Protective Gloves	Chemical Protective Boots or Overshoes	Respiratory Protection
<b>Initial line break</b>	R	R		R	R	R	N/A
<b>Material sampling</b>	N/A	R		N/A	R	N/A	N/A
<b>Loading - remotely activated</b>	R	R		N/A	R	N/A	N/A
<b>Loading - not remotely activated</b>	R	R		R	R	R	N/A
<b>Unloading</b>	R	R		R	R	R	N/A
<b>Loading/Unloading - only when inspecting dome with no product flowing</b>	N/A	N/A	R	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>Emergency Response *</b>							
<b>Severe cases - spraying</b>	R	R		R	R	R	SCBA
<b>All others</b>	R	R		R	R	R	N/A

R = Recommended PPE for this task

N/A = This PPE is not believed necessary for this task

SCBA = SCBA or Full Face Air Supply Respirator with an auxiliary self-contained air supply (escape air provision)

\* **Chemical protection of the neck (e.g., hood) is also recommended for Emergency Response.**

**TABLE 7.2 - RECOMMENDED CRITERIA TO EVALUATE PPE COMPONENTS  
FOR TASKS INVOLVING 3 - 20% SODIUM HYPOCHLORITE**

PPE Component	Recommended Test
Base Material, Seam, Visor, Gloves, Boots, Overshoes	V or II performed at the applicable temperature
Ensemble System	III

II ASTM F739-99a (chemical resistance - permeation, no breakthrough in 60 minutes)

III ASTM F1359-99a (shower test)

V ASTM F903-99a (chemical resistance - penetration; no penetration in 60 minutes)

Table 4.1 and Reference 14 provide further explanation of these tests.

**Note:** *The appropriate shoe consistent with the facility's foot protection policy should be worn.*

## 8. PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT SELECTION - HYDROCHLORIC ACID (7 - 37 wt %)

As stated in Section 4.1, the recommendations in this pamphlet assume that the facility has not performed a detailed job safety analysis (JSA) of the specific task being performed. If such a detailed JSA of the specific task has been performed and documented, and it concludes that a different level of PPE will protect the employee(s) performing the work, such different levels of PPE are compatible with the purposes and intent of these recommendations.

This section covers the recommended PPE for performing the specified tasks involving hydrochloric acid at concentration between 7 - 37% and below 120°F. See Tables 8.1a, 8.1b and 8.2. Materials for PPE should be chemical resistant against 7-37% hydrochloric acid at 120°F or the applicable temperature and meet the criteria in Table 8.2.

***Note: When chemical protective equipment is worn to protect the feet and body, and the garment has pant legs but does not have integral foot protection, the legs of the protective garment must be placed on the outside of the protective footwear.***

### 8.1 Initial Line Break

If the specific initial line break currently being performed has been performed periodically in the past and it has been demonstrated that the evacuation techniques and the maintenance procedures utilized will result in hydrochloric acid concentrations no more than the capacity of the respirator:

#### Recommendations:

- ! Full face air purifying respirator approved for protection against hydrogen chloride.
- ! Chemical protection for the head, face, eyes, hands, body, and feet.

If the above criteria have not been met:

#### Recommendations:

- ! SCBA or full face air supply respirator with escape bottle.
- ! Chemical protection for the head, face, eyes, hands, body, and feet.

### 8.2 Material Sampling

As stated in Section 4.1, these recommendations are made for the sampling in the absence of site engineered sampling station.

If the specific sampling has been periodically undertaken in the past, and industrial hygiene sampling results indicate that the techniques being utilized will result in hydrogen chloride concentrations no more than the ceiling level of 5 ppm:



Recommendations:

- ! Chemical protection for the face, eyes, and hands.

If the specific sampling task has been periodically undertaken in the past and industrial hygiene sampling results demonstrated that the techniques being utilized may result in hydrogen chloride concentrations more than the ceiling level of 5 ppm, but no more than the capability of the respirator:

Recommendations:

- ! Full face air purifying respirator approved for protection against hydrogen chloride.
- ! Chemical protection for the face, eyes, and hands. (A full face respirator provides protection for the face and eyes.)

If the above criteria have not been met:

Recommendations:

- ! SCBA or full face air supply respirator with an auxiliary self-contained air supply (escape air provision).
- ! Chemical protection for the face, eyes, and hands. (A SCBA or full face respirator provides protection for the face and eyes.)

8.3 Loading/Unloading

In addition to the assumptions discussed in Section 4.1, the next two recommendations assume the facility has a system to allow for the purging and evacuation of the pipeline/hoses used for loading and unloading.

If the loading/unloading task has been periodically undertaken in the past, and industrial hygiene sampling results indicate that the techniques being utilized will result in hydrogen chloride concentrations no more than the ceiling level of 5 ppm:

Recommendations:

- ! Chemical protection for the head, face, eyes, hands, body, and feet.

If the loading/unloading task has been periodically undertaken in the past, and industrial hygiene sampling results indicate that the techniques being utilized will result in hydrogen chloride concentrations more than the ceiling level of 5 ppm, but no more than the capability of the respirator:

Recommendations:

- ! Full face air purifying respirator approved for protection against hydrogen chloride
- ! Chemical protection for the head, face, eyes, hands, body, and feet. (A full face respirator provides protection for the face and eyes.)

If the above criteria have not been met:

Recommendations:

- ! SCBA or full face air supply respirator with an auxiliary self-contained air supply (escape air provision)
- ! Chemical protection for the head, face, eyes, hands, body, and feet (A SCBA or full face respirator provides protection for the face and eyes.)

#### 8.4 Emergency Response

For a discussion of emergency response PPE guideline, the reader is referred to Section 4.2. In addition to the assumptions stated in Section 4.1, these recommendations assume that no other hazardous materials requiring additional PPE will be encountered by the responders.

Emergency responders to a hydrochloric acid release can be potentially exposed to the acid, which is capable of causing chemical burns. In addition, responders to releases of hydrochloric acid can be exposed to hydrogen chloride vapors above levels of 5 ppm. Unless deemed unnecessary by the overall Incident Commander, the Institute recommends that, initially, emergency responders adhere to the guidelines for an Enhanced Level B protection.

#### 8.5 Summary of Recommendations

Tables 8.1a, 8.1b, and 8.2 summarize the recommendations contained in this section. Tables 8.1a and 8.1b also include specific examples of PPE that provide protection for specific body parts.

The Institute recognizes that a purchaser of Enhanced Level B PPE may opt to specify Level A PPE in order to reduce the different types of PPE held in inventory or to simplify the PPE selection process.

**TABLE 8.1a - SUMMARY OF PPE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR TASKS INVOLVING POTENTIAL EXPOSURE TO 7 - 37% HYDROCHLORIC ACID BELOW 120°F**

See Table 8.1b for Respiratory Protection Recommendations

	<b>Chemical Protective Hat or Hood</b>	<b>Face Shield &amp; Chemical Splash Goggles</b>	<b>Chemical Protective Suit</b>	<b>Chemical Protective Gloves</b>	<b>Chemical Protective Boots or Overshoes</b>
<b>Initial line break</b>	R	R	R	R	R
<b>Material sampling</b>	N/A	R	N/A	R	N/A
<b>Loading/Unloading</b>	R	R	R	R	R
<b>Emergency Response*</b>	R	R	R	R	R

R = Recommended PPE for this task

N/A = This PPE is not believed necessary for this task

**\*Chemical protection of the neck (e.g., hood) is also recommended for Emergency Response.**

**TABLE 8.1b - SUMMARY OF RESPIRATORY PROTECTION RECOMMENDATIONS FOR TASKS INVOLVING POTENTIAL EXPOSURE TO 7 - 37% HYDROCHLORIC ACID BELOW 120°F**

	TASK PREVIOUSLY SAMPLED		TASK NOT PREVIOUSLY SAMPLED OR SAMPLED AND ABOVE RESPIRATOR LIMITS
	Results # 5.0 ppm	Results > 5 ppm BUT WITHIN RESPIRATOR LIMITS	
<b>Initial line break</b>	FFR	FFR	SCBA
<b>Material Sampling</b>	N/A	FFR	SCBA
<b>Loading/Unloading</b>	N/A	FFR	SCBA
<b>Emergency Response</b>	Enhanced Level B		

FFR = Full face respirator approved for protection against hydrogen chloride

SCBA = SCBA or full face air supply respirator with an auxiliary self-contained air supply (escape air provision)

N/A = No respiratory protection PPE is believed necessary for this task

**TABLE 8.2 - RECOMMENDED CRITERIA TO EVALUATE PPE COMPONENTS FOR TASKS INVOLVING 7 - 37% HYDROCHLORIC ACID**

PPE Component	Recommended Test
Base Material, Seam, Visor, Gloves, Boots, Overshoes	V or II performed at 120°F or applicable temperature
Ensemble System	III

II ASTM F739-99a (chemical resistance - permeation, no breakthrough in 60 minutes)

III ASTM F1359-99a (shower test)

V ASTM F903-99a (chemical resistance - penetration; no penetration in 60 minutes)

Table 4.1 and Reference 14 provide further explanation of these tests.

**Note:** *The appropriate shoe consistent with the facility's foot protection policy should be worn.*

## 9. PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT SELECTION - SULFURIC ACID (38 - 98 wt %)

As stated in Section 4.1, the recommendations in this pamphlet assume that the facility has not performed a detailed job safety analysis (JSA) of the specific task being performed. If such a detailed JSA of the specific task has been performed and documented, and it concludes that a different level of PPE will protect the employee(s) performing the work, such different levels of PPE are compatible with the purposes and intent of these recommendations.

This section covers the recommended PPE for performing the specified tasks involving sulfuric acid at concentrations between 38 - 98% and below 120°F. See Tables 9.1 and 9.2. Materials for PPE should be chemically resistant against 38 - 98% sulfuric acid and meet the criteria in Table 9.2.

Exposure to mists may cause irritation of the nose and throat with sneezing, sore throat or runny nose, and non-specific effects such as headache, nausea, and weakness. Overexposure may cause irritation of the nose, throat, and lungs with cough, difficulty breathing or shortness of breath or pulmonary edema. Symptoms may be delayed. The ACGIH lists exposure to sulfuric acid mists as a suspected human carcinogen.

In most chlor-alkali manufacturing facilities, sulfuric acid is used to dry chlorine gas. Sulfuric acid that has been in contact with chlorine may evolve chlorine. Appropriate respiratory precautions should be taken.

***Note: When chemical protective equipment is worn to protect the feet and body, and the garment has pant legs but does not have integral foot protection, the legs of the protective garment must be placed on the outside of the protective footwear.***

### 9.1 Initial Line Break

#### Recommendations:

! Chemical protection for the head, neck, eyes, face, hands, body, and feet.

### 9.2 Material Sampling

As stated in Section 4.1, these recommendations are made for sampling in the absence of site engineered sampling stations.

#### Recommendations:

! Chemical protection for the face, eyes, hands, and upper body.

### 9.3 Loading

In addition to the assumption discussed in Section 4.1, the PPE recommendations listed below assume the actual loading operation can be started and stopped while the employee is remote from the loading connection (i.e. the point that sulfuric acid leaves the loading line and enters the loading container).

Except while inspecting an open dome when no product is flowing

! Chemical protection for the head, face, eyes, and hands

In the absence of such remotely operated equipment, the facility should follow the recommendations listed immediately below.

Except while inspecting an open dome when no product is flowing

Recommendations:

! Chemical protection for the head, neck, face, eyes, hands, body, and feet.

Only while inspecting an open dome when no product is flowing

! Chemical protection for the eyes

9.4 Unloading

Unloading of a container containing sulfuric acid is deemed to be potentially more hazardous than the loading of such a container that is initiated by remote operations. Unloading a sulfuric acid container typically involves pressurizing the container.

Except while inspecting an open dome when no product is flowing

Recommendations:

! Chemical protection for the head, neck, eyes, face, hands, body, and feet.

Only while inspecting an open dome when no product is flowing

! Chemical protection for the eyes

9.5 Emergency Response

For a discussion of emergency response PPE guideline, the reader is referred to Section 4.2. In addition to the assumptions stated in Section 4.1, these recommendations assume that no other hazardous materials requiring additional PPE will be encountered by the responders.

! Chemical protection for the head, neck, face, eyes, hands, body, and feet.

Respiratory protection recommendations are as follows:

*In cases with spraying sulfuric acid in a leak:*

! SCBA or full face air supply respirator with an auxiliary self-contained air supply (escape air provision)

Responders to cases with spraying sulfuric acid should be equipped with Enhanced Level B protection.

*In less severe cases such as a leaking valve or pipeline with no appreciable spraying and/or splashing product:*

! No respiratory protection is needed

#### 9.6 Summary of Recommendations

Tables 9.1 and 9.2 summarize the recommendations contained in this section. Table 9.1 also includes specific examples of PPE that provide protection for specific body parts.

The Institute recognizes that a purchaser of Enhanced Level B PPE may opt to specify Level A PPE in order to reduce the different types of PPE held in inventory or to simplify the PPE selection process.



**TABLE 9.1 - SUMMARY OF PPE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR TASKS INVOLVING  
POTENTIAL EXPOSURE TO 38 - 98% SULFURIC ACID**

	Chemical Protective Hood	Face Shield & Chemical Splash Goggles	Chemical Splash Goggles (without face shield)	Chemical Protective Suit	Chemical Protective Gloves	Chemical Protective Boots or Overshoes	Respiratory Protection
Initial line break	R	R		R	R	R	N/A
Material sampling	N/A	R		R*	R	N/A	N/A
Loading - remotely activated	R**	R		N/A	R	N/A	N/A
Loading - not remotely activated	R	R		R	R	R	N/A
Unloading	R	R		R	R	R	N/A
Loading/Unloading - only when inspecting dome with no product flowing	N/A	N/A	R	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Emergency Response Spraying	ENHANCED LEVEL B						
Emergency Response All other	R	R		R	R	R	N/A

R = Recommended PPE for this task

R\* = Recommended protection for the upper body only (e.g., apron)

R\*\* = Chemical Protective hat or hood (neck protection is not believed necessary).

N/A = This PPE is not believed necessary for this task

**TABLE 9.2 - RECOMMENDED CRITERIA TO EVALUATE PPE COMPONENTS  
FOR TASKS INVOLVING 38 - 98% SULFURIC ACID**

PPE Component	Recommended Test
Base Material, Seam, Visor, Gloves, Boots, Overshoes	V or II performed at 120°F or applicable temperature
Ensemble System	III

II      ASTM F739-99a (chemical resistance - permeation, no break through in 60 minutes)

III     ASTM F1359-99a (shower test)

V      ASTM F903-99a (chemical resistance - penetration; no penetration in 60 minutes)

Table 4.1 and Reference 14 provide further explanation of these tests.

**Note:** *The appropriate shoe consistent with the facility's foot protection policy should be worn.*

## 10. PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT SELECTION - ANHYDROUS HYDROGEN CHLORIDE (AHCl)

As stated in Section 4.1, the recommendations in this pamphlet assume that the facility has not performed a detailed job safety analysis (JSA) of the specific task being performed. If such a detailed JSA of the specific task has been performed and documented, and it concludes that a different level of PPE will protect the employee(s) performing the work, such different levels of PPE are compatible with the purposes and intent of these recommendations.

This section covers the recommended PPE for performing the specified tasks involving anhydrous hydrogen chloride at temperatures below 120°F. See Tables 10.1 and 10.2. Materials for PPE should be chemical resistant against gaseous anhydrous hydrogen chloride at 120°F or the applicable temperature and meet the criteria in Table 10.2. Special precautions should be taken for liquid AHCl since temperatures can reach -121°F (see Section 10.4).

### 10.1 Initial Line Break

If the specific initial line break currently being performed has been performed periodically in the past and it has been demonstrated that the evacuation techniques and the maintenance procedures utilized will result in anhydrous hydrogen chloride concentrations no more than the capability of the respirator:

#### Recommendations:

- AHCl Gas - Full face air purifying respirator approved for protection against hydrogen chloride.
- AHCl Liquid - Full face purifying respirator approved for protection against hydrogen chloride. Gloves for thermal (cold) protection.

If the above criteria have not been met:

#### Recommendations:

- AHCl Gas - SCBA or full face air supply respirator with an auxiliary self-contained air supply (escape air provision)
- AHCl Liquid - Enhanced Level B

### 10.2 Material Sampling

If the specific sampling has been periodically undertaken in the past and industrial hygiene sampling results demonstrated that the techniques being utilized may result in hydrogen chloride concentrations no more than the capability of the respirator:

Recommendations:

- AHCl Gas - Full face air purifying respirator approved for protection against hydrogen chloride
- AHCl Liquid - Full face air purifying respirator approved for protection against hydrogen chloride. Gloves for thermal (cold) protection

If the above criteria have not been met:

Recommendations:

- AHCl Gas - SCBA or full face air supply respirator with an auxiliary self-contained air supply (escape air provision)
- AHCl Liquid - SCBA or full face air supply respirator with an auxiliary self-contained air supply (escape air provision) Gloves for thermal (cold) protection

10.3 Loading/Unloading

***Note: Most shipping containers contain both liquid and gaseous anhydrous hydrogen chloride. If such is the situation, the recommendation for liquid anhydrous hydrogen chloride should be followed.***

In addition to the assumptions discussed in Section 4.1, the next two recommendations assumes the facility has a system to allow for the purging and evacuation of the pipeline/hoses used for loading and unloading.

If the loading/unloading task being done has been periodically undertaken in the past and industrial hygiene sampling results demonstrated that the techniques being utilized may result in hydrogen chloride concentrations no more than the capability of the respirator:

Recommendations:

- AHCl Gas - Full face respirator approved for protection against hydrogen chloride
- AHCl Liquid - Full face respirator approved for protection against hydrogen chloride. Gloves for thermal (cold) protection

If the above criteria have not been met:

Recommendations:

- AHCl Gas - SCBA or full face air supply respirator with an auxiliary self-contained air supply (escape air provision)

- AHCl Liquid - SCBA or full face air supply respirator with an auxiliary self-contained air supply (escape air provision). Gloves for thermal (cold) protection

#### 10.4 Emergency Response

In addition to the assumptions stated in Section 4.1, these recommendations assume that no other hazardous materials requiring additional PPE will be encountered by the emergency responders.

Prior to an individual re-entering a gaseous anhydrous hydrogen chloride release area after the refilling of any self contained breathing equipment tank, the individual should be interviewed by a knowledgeable person to verify that skin irritation has not occurred.

Through their collective experience the members of the Institute have determined that Enhanced Level B, as defined by the Institute in Section 4.2, provides appropriate protection to emergency responders for gaseous and liquid anhydrous hydrogen chloride releases. The PPE selected should meet specific criteria that the Institute believes are appropriate for emergency responders to gaseous anhydrous hydrogen chloride as shown in Table 10.2. Caution must be taken anytime emergency responders are in the vicinity of liquid anhydrous hydrogen chloride due to its low temperature (boiling point of  $-85^{\circ}\text{C}$  at atmospheric pressure). If the Enhanced Level B suit is not certified for low temperature use, embrittlement of the suit material may occur, which can result in a breach of the protective suit.

Prior to an individual re-entering a gaseous anhydrous hydrogen chloride release area after the refilling of any self contained breathing equipment tank, the individual should be interviewed by a knowledgeable person to verify that skin irritation has not occurred.

##### Recommendations:

- AHCl Gas - Enhanced Level B  
AHCl Liquid - Enhanced Level B

#### 10.5 Summary of Recommendations

Tables 10.1 and 10.2 summarize the recommendations contained in this section. Table 10.1 also includes specific examples of PPE that provide protection for specific body parts.

**TABLE 10.1 - SUMMARY OF PPE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR TASKS INVOLVING  
POTENTIAL EXPOSURE TO ANHYDROUS HYDROGEN CHLORIDE**

	TASK PREVIOUSLY SAMPLED AND WITHIN RESPIRATORY LIMITATIONS	TASK NOT PREVIOUSLY SAMPLED OR SAMPLED AND ABOVE RESPIRATOR LIMITATIONS	
		GAS	LIQUID
<b>Initial line break</b>	FFR G*	SCBA	Enhanced Level B
<b>Material Sampling</b>	FFR G*	SCBA	SCBA G*
<b>Loading/Unloading</b>	FFR G*	SCBA	SCBA G*
<b>Emergency Response</b>	ENHANCED LEVEL B		

FFR = Full Face Air Purifying Respirator approved for protection against hydrogen chloride

G\* = Gloves for thermal (cold) protection - Recommendation is for liquid only

SCBA = SCBA or Full Face Air Supply Respirator with an auxiliary self-contained air supply (escape air provision)

**TABLE 10.2 - RECOMMENDED CRITERIA TO EVALUATE SELECTED PPE COMPONENTS  
FOR TASKS INVOLVING LIQUID OR GASEOUS ANHYDROUS HYDROGEN CHLORIDE (AHCI)**

<b>PPE Component</b>	<b>Multipiece Enhanced Level B AHCI Liquid</b>	<b>Hood for Multipiece Enhanced Level B AHCI Liquid</b>	<b>One Piece Enhanced Level B AHCI Liquid</b>	<b>Level A AHCI Liquid</b>	<b>Level B AHCI Gas</b>
<b>Base Material for Suit and Booties</b>	I and V or I and II	I and V or I and II	I and V or I and II	I and V or I and II	V or II
<b>Visor</b>	Not Applicable	I and V or I and II	Not Applicable	I and V or I and II	Not Applicable
<b>Gloves System</b>	I and V or I and II	Not Applicable	I and V or I and II	I and V or I and II	V or II
<b>Boots</b>	*	Not Applicable	*	Not Applicable	*
<b>Seams/Tape</b>	V or II	Not Applicable	V or II	V or II	V or II
<b>Ensemble System</b>	III	Not Applicable	III	IV	Not Applicable

- I ASTM D2136-94 modified to -30°F (low temperature flex text)
- II ASTM F739-99a (chemical resistance - permeation, no breakthrough in 60 minutes)
- III ASTM F1359-99a (shower test)
- IV ASTM F1052-97 (pressure test)
- V ASTM F903-99a (chemical resistance - penetration; no penetration in 60 minutes)

Table 4.1 and Reference 14 provide a further explanation of these tests.

**Notes:** *Boots should be resistant to hydrogen chloride and consistent with the facility's foot protection policy.*

*Hood must be used with Multipiece Enhanced Level B.*

## 11. MAINTENANCE OF PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT

### 11.1 Maintenance of Personal Protective Equipment

Personal protective equipment is effective only if it is properly maintained. An effective maintenance program consists of decontamination, inspection, repair and storage.

### 11.2 Decontamination

Decontamination is defined as the task undertaken to remove, neutralize, or detoxify hazardous materials which contaminate personal protective equipment.

Personal protective equipment must be decontaminated for several reasons, including:

- ! To allow the safe removal of the PPE
- ! To permit the safe reuse of previously contaminated PPE
- ! To provide for safe assistance to the wearer (changing air cylinders, etc.)
- ! To allow emergency removal of PPE in the event the wearer requires medical attention

The interactions among the contaminant and the PPE ensemble determine the efficiency of decontamination and the methods which may be selected. The most commonly used material for decontamination is water. Water is by far the most readily available of all possible solvents, it generates no toxic fumes or contamination of its own, and it has minimal effect on the physical properties of most protective clothing materials. Appropriate precautions should be taken to insure that any wash water discharges have no adverse environmental consequences.

There are many commercially available decontamination products. Check with the equipment manufacturer to assure that a proper decontamination product is chosen.

### 11.3 Inspection

An effective PPE inspection will feature the following elements:

- ! Inspection and operational testing of equipment received from the factory or distributor
- ! Inspection of equipment as it is issued to workers
- ! Inspection after use or training
- ! Periodic inspection of stored equipment



Detailed inspection procedures, where appropriate, are usually available from the manufacturer. Inspection procedures should be documented and a record retention policy should be established in accordance with company policy and applicable regulations. Appendix 14.1 provides a sample PPE inspection checklist guide.

#### 11.4 Repair

Repair of the PPE should be performed according to the manufacturer's recommendations.

#### 11.5 Storage

PPE should be stored according to the manufacturer's recommendations to prevent damage or malfunction due to exposure to elements such as dust, moisture, sunlight, damaging chemicals, extreme temperatures and sunlight. Procedures should be specified for both pre-issuance warehousing and, more importantly, post-issuance storage.

The following are general recommendations for storage of PPE:

- ! Potentially contaminated clothing should be isolated from street clothing until it has been decontaminated.
- ! Different types and materials of clothing and gloves should be identified and stored separately to prevent issuing the wrong materials of construction.
- ! Protective clothing should be folded or hung in accordance with manufacturer's recommendations.

#### 11.6 Disposal

Personal protective equipment that can not be repaired to a condition suitable for use should be made unusable to prevent unauthorized reuse and disposed of in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations.

## 12. **TRAINING IN THE USE OF PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT**

### 12.1 Operations and Maintenance

The OSHA Hazard Communication Standard (1910.1200 - Reference 2) requires that all employees be provided information and training on hazardous chemicals in their work areas.

Training should include measures employees can take to protect themselves such as specific procedures the employer has implemented to protect employees from exposure to hazardous chemicals (e.g., appropriate work practices, emergency procedures, and PPE to be used). The users of PPE should be instructed and trained in the proper selection, use, limitations, care and maintenance of the PPE they are expected to use. Respirator training should be done in accordance with the OSHA Respiratory Protection Standard (1910.134 - Reference 8) and persons who may require them should be trained in their use.

## 12.2 Emergency Response

The Chlorine Institute recommends that all producers and users of chlorine have a written Emergency Response Plan (ERP). (Reference 11).

Emergency response training (including PPE) should be based on the duties and functions performed by each responder of an emergency response organization, and should follow the OSHA requirements (29CFR 1910.120 (Reference 2)). See Appendix 14.2 for a further discussion.

## 13. REFERENCES

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ASTM F1359-99a, *Standard Practice for Liquid Penetration Resistance of Protective Clothing or Protective Ensembles Under a Shower Spring While on a Mannequin*, 1999.  
  
ASTM F1052-97, *Standard Practice for Pressure Testing Vapor Protective Ensembles*, 1997.  
  
ASTM F903-99a, *Standard Test Method for Resistance of Materials Used in Protective Clothing to Penetration by Liquids*, 1999.
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## 14. APPENDICES

### 14.1 Sample PPE Inspection Checklist Guide

**NOTE: Any such checklist not only should cover the items listed below, but should include information such as the following on the checklist form:**

- Date of inspection
- Name of inspector
- Actual findings
- Comments

#### **!** CHEMICAL PROTECTIVE GARMENT (e.g., suit, jacket, pants, apron)

# Before each use

- (1) Determine that the clothing material is correct for the specified task at hand
- (2) Visually inspect for:
  - " defective seams and closures
  - " non-uniform coatings
  - " tears and holes
  - " discoloration
  - " swelling
  - " stiffness
- (3) Flex the item:
  - " observe for cracks
  - " observe for other signs of deterioration

# During Use: The user should be aware of and monitor the following:

- (1) Evidence of chemical attack such as discoloration, swelling, stiffening, and softening
- (2) Defective closure on seams
- (3) Tears or holes

#### **!** CHEMICAL PROTECTIVE BOOTS AND GLOVES

If the PPE have been used previously, inspect for signs of chemical or physical attack:

- ! Cracks
- ! Punctures
- ! Signs of pliability (stiffness)
- ! Signs of deterioration
- ! Discoloration

! RESPIRATORY PROTECTION EQUIPMENT

Appendix 14.3 has information on respiratory protective equipment inspection and maintenance.

! EYE AND FACE PROTECTION EQUIPMENT

Inspect for:

- " cracks
- " fogging
- " crazing
- " lenses properly secured

14.2 Emergency Response Duties, Functions and Training

Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response duties, function and competence of emergency responders and corresponding training requirements are divided into four levels: (1) First Responder Awareness Level; (2) First Responder Operations Level; (3) Hazardous Materials Technician; and (4) Hazardous Materials Specialist. For comprehensive competency/training requirements refer to the OSHA standard 1910.120 6(i), (ii), (iii), and (iv) - (Reference 2). Reference 11 provides additional guidance. The following excerpts briefly describe operation of each level and PPE training requirement.

A.1 Hazardous Waste Operations/Emergency Response Duties

A.1.1 First Responders - Awareness Level

These are individuals likely to witness or discover hazardous substance releases and will notify proper authorities. PPE in most cases will not be used at this level except for an escape respirator, glasses and gloves.

A.1.2 First Responders - Operations Level

These are individuals who respond to releases or potential releases of hazardous substances as part of the initial response to the site for the purpose of protecting nearby persons, property or the environment from the effects of the release. They are trained to respond in a defensive fashion without actually trying to stop the release. This level requires at least 8 hours of comprehensive training or have sufficient competency in the required training which includes but is not limited to how to select and properly use PPE provided.

A.1.3 Hazardous Materials Technicians (HMTs)

These are individuals who respond to releases or potential releases for the purpose of stopping the release. HMTs must have received at least 24 hours training equal to the first responder operation level plus training or demonstrate competency in other required areas including but not limited to PPE provided to HMTs.

#### A.1.4 Hazardous Materials Specialists (HMSs)

These are individuals who respond with and provide support to HMTs. HMSs must have received at least 24 hours training equal to the HMT level and have competency in other required areas including but not limited to being able to select and use proper specialized PPE provided to the HMS.

#### A.2 Trainers - PPE

Trainers who teach any of the above training subjects must have satisfactorily completed a training course for teaching the subject they are expected to teach or must have training and/or academic credentials and instructional experience to demonstrate competency.

#### A.3 Refresher Training

Employers shall have annual refresher training of sufficient content and duration to maintain their competencies or shall demonstrate competencies in those areas at least annually. Records of training or statements on method(s) of demonstrating competency must be maintained.

### 14.3 Respiratory Protection

#### 14.3.1 Elements of a Respiratory Protection Program

##### 14.3.1.1 Introduction

Respirators should be used to provide personal protection in emergencies and in operations where engineering and/or work practice controls are not available. The main objective of a respirator protection program is to prevent the inhalation of substances that may result in adverse health effects to exposed personnel.

##### 14.3.1.2 Specific Responsibility Assignment

One individual should be assigned the responsibility and authority to see the respiratory protection program is carried out effectively. This individual should be knowledgeable about industrial hygiene principles, or have access to such a knowledgeable person, and should become expert in all aspects of the program. Most importantly, he/she should know the potential hazards in each operation and the corresponding proper protection.

##### 14.3.1.3 Documentation

A written description of the respirator program is necessary for effective administration. In the United States OSHA requires a written program [Reference 2 (29 CFR 1910.134)]. The program should define the specifics of equipment used for different applications, responsibility for maintenance, replacement and inspection, and the training and fit-testing activities.

#### 14.3.1.4 Training

Annual training including documentation of such training in all aspects of a respiratory protection program is recommended. Employees must understand the potential hazards and the proper use of the appropriate respirators needed to achieve the necessary protection.

#### 14.3.1.5 Fit Testing

Respirators should not be worn when conditions exist that prevent a good face seal (E.g., facial hair, scars, facial irregularities, eye glasses) (29 CFR 1910.134 (Appendix A). (Reference 2) Additionally, to assure proper protection, the wearer should perform a user-seal-check each time the respirator is used. This may be done by following OSHA's 29 CFR 1910.134 (Appendix B-1), and the manufacturer's face piece fitting instructions.

#### 14.3.1.6 Cleaning of Respirators

Frequent cleaning of face piece is helpful in preventing skin irritation, especially in warm climates. Proper cleaning procedures should be part of the training program.

#### 14.3.1.7 Respirator Maintenance

An efficient maintenance plan for respiratory equipment is essential. Well defined procedures and schedules should be established. Thorough training is necessary for respiratory equipment maintenance personnel. A description of the maintenance plan should be part of the written respirator program. Each user must understand the basis for cartridge and canister replacement. A record of replacements should be maintained.

#### 14.3.1.8 Inspection and Storage

A formal inspection program is an essential part of the maintenance plan for respirators. In the United States the OSHA regulations require that respirators used for emergency response and self contained breathing apparatus be inspected monthly and after each use, and a permanent record of the inspections be kept. Trained inspectors should check the equipment according to manufacturer's recommendations. Proper storage is very important. Inspection points to note include the following: appropriate air pressure in cylinders (where applicable), proper cleanliness (presence of protective wrapping), face piece crimping, expiration date printed on cartridge or canister, and condition of valves and straps.

#### 14.3.1.9 Medical Examination

Certain physical conditions may limit an employee's ability to use a respirator. In the United States, each employee is required to be evaluated by a physician or other licensed health care professional to determine his/her fitness to perform job tasks while using a respirator (29 CFR 1910.134(e)) (Reference 2). The evaluator needs to know the job assignment, types of respirator to be used, and conditions that may require respirator use ((29 CFR 1910,134 (e)(5)).

#### 14.3.1.10 Program Evaluation

In addition to the program evaluation requirements of 29 CFR 1910.134(l), a periodic audit of the respiratory protection program should be conducted and include the following:

- A review of inhalation incidents to determine the adequacy of the program.
- A review of conditions to determine whether changes warrant amending the program.
- A review of the elements of the program to verify compliance.
- A review of the documentation to verify that necessary records are being maintained.
- A review of whether any engineering or administrative controls can be implemented to lessen or eliminate the need for respirators.

#### 14.3.2. Air Supply Respirators

Air supply respirators are supplied with respirable compressed air. Sometimes these are referred to as airline respirators. The source of air is typically either large stationary compressed breathing air cylinders or compressed air from a plant air system that meets the requirements for respirable air. The Compressed Gas Association states that Quality Verification Level D is the minimum requirement for such air. (Reference 15)

Air is supplied to the respirator wearer through an air hose not to exceed 300 feet in length (or less, depending upon the specific NIOSH approval (Reference 2)) in a continuous flow with a demand or pressure demand regulator.

Continuous flow types may be equipped with either a quarter, half or full tight-fitting face piece or a helmet, hood or suit. A vortex tube may also be used for heating or cooling if approved by NIOSH for use with the specific device. A large volume of respirable quality air is required to supply these systems.

Demand or pressure demand can only be used with tight fitting half or full face piece. The respirators must not be used in atmospheres immediately dangerous to life or health or in oxygen deficient atmospheres unless equipped with an auxiliary escape air supply.

#### 14.3.3 Air Purifying Respirators

##### 14.3.3.1 General

Air purifying respirators are designed to remove specific gas and vapors and/or particulates from the atmosphere. Air purifying respirators do not compensate for a lack of oxygen. A minimum of 19.5% oxygen must be present (Reference 2 (29 CFR 1910.134(d)(Table II)).



Air purifying respirators must not be worn when the contaminant concentration is above the IDLH concentration or the potential contaminant exposure concentration is greater than the product of the respiratory assigned protection factor times the permissible exposure limit for the contaminant, or the manufacturer's use limitation for the cartridge or canister. Air purifying respirators are under slight negative pressure when the wearer inhales. Therefore, any leakage will be to the inside of the face piece and can result in potential wearer exposure.

Employee exposure should be determined through appropriate industrial hygiene air sampling to assure that the protection limit of the respirator is not exceeded.

#### 14.3.3.2 Gas and Vapor Cartridges

The cartridge, canister, or filter is designed for specific types of contaminants. An acid gas cartridge will remove chlorine or hydrogen chloride, but will not remove ammonia, amines, or organic vapors. There are combinations available such as an organic vapor/acid gas cartridge which will remove many organic vapors and acid gases but not ammonia or dusts and mists. There are also combinations of vapor cartridge and dust and mist filters such as an organic vapor/dust and mist cartridge which are commonly used for spray painting. For information on which cartridges are certified for specific uses refer to Reference 1.

The service life of a canister, cartridge, or filter is dependent on many factors such as the concentration of contaminants in the air, the user's breathing rate and the efficiency with which the filtering system removes the contaminants from the air. Humidity and temperature may also affect service life, for example high humidity may increase service life of an acid gas sorbent, but decrease service life for an organic vapor sorbent.

An increasing concentration of contaminants in the air or an increase in the breathing rate will decrease the service life. There is no simple, reliable means of ascertaining the available service life of a respirator cartridge or filter. Day-to-day changes in job operation, the level of physical work, or the level and mixture of contaminants in the air affect the service life. The recommendations provided by the manufacturer of the respirator should be followed.

The category "organic vapors" covers a wide range of materials with very different physical and chemical properties. Therefore, the absorptive capacity of cartridges also varies. As a general rule, the absorptive capacity increases as the volatility of the compound decreases. (Reference 16)

If a canister or cartridge does not have an end-of-service-life indicator (ESLI) then a change schedule is needed based on objective information as described above (29 CFR 1910.134(d)(3)(iii)).

#### 14.3.3.3 Particulate Filters

Particulates are mechanically removed from the air by a fibrous filter media. The filter selected needs to be NIOSH certified under either 30 CFR part 11 (for HEPA filters), or 84 CFR part 84 (for other filters).

NIOSH has designated a matrix of filter certifications based on the filter's ability to resist oil mist, and its percent filtration of the contaminant.

#### 14.3.3.4 Powered Air Purifying Respirators

Powered air purifying respirators filter the air by removing particulate or toxic gases and vapors from the atmosphere and delivering respirable air to the wearer by means of portable powered blower or a non-portable powered blower. Tight-fitting quarter, half, or full face piece masks or loose fitting helmets or hoods are used with this type of respirator. Powered air respirators must not be used in oxygen deficient atmospheres.

14.4 Checklist

This check list is designed to emphasize major topics for someone who has already read and understood the pamphlet. Taking recommendations from this list without understanding related topics can lead to inappropriate conclusions.

Place a check mark (T) in the appropriate box below:

Yes	No	N/A	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1. Does the facility comply with the PPE recommendation for specific tasks involving gaseous or liquid chlorine? {Section 5}
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	2. Does the facility comply with the PPE recommendation for specific tasks involving 10-50% sodium hydroxide? {Section 6}
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	3. Does the facility comply with the PPE recommendation for specific tasks involving 10-50% potassium hydroxide? {Section 6}
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	4. Does the facility comply with the PPE recommendation for specific tasks involving 3-20% sodium hypochlorite? {Section 7}
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	5. Does the facility comply with the PPE recommendation for specific tasks involving 7-37% hydrochloric acid? {Section 8}
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	6. Does the facility comply with the PPE recommendation for specific tasks involving 55-98% sulfuric acid? {Section 9}
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	7. Does the facility comply with the PPE recommendation for specific tasks involving gaseous or liquid anhydrous hydrogen chloride? {Section 10}
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	8. Does the facility have a preventive maintenance program for PPE that complies with Institute recommendations? {Section 11}
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	9. Does the facility include in its Hazard Communication training, information on measures that employees can take to protect themselves from exposure to hazardous chemicals? {Section 12}

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