TOOLBOX TALK

WHMIS and Hazardous Products

Topic	WHMIS and Hazardous Products	Attendees	0

WHAT WE TALKED ABOUT

Adhesives, solvents, fuels, sealants, form oil and cleaners can burn your skin, damage your lungs or catch fire. Some cause cancer or asthma years later. The information you need to stay safe is on the label and the safety data sheet, so read them before you use the product.

1. Read the WHMIS label and the safety data sheet (SDS) before using a product. You must have WHMIS training.
2. Know the hazard pictograms on the label: flame, skull, corrosion, health hazard and exclamation mark.
3. Keep SDSs on site where everyone can get to them, and check they are up to date. Since December 2025 all labels and SDS must follow the updated WHMIS rules, including the new Chemicals Under Pressure class.
4. If you decant a product into another container, it needs a workplace label with the product name, safe handling steps and a reference to the SDS. Never use drink bottles.
5. Use good ventilation. Do not use solvents or adhesives in enclosed spaces without extra air or a respirator.
6. Read the label for drying or flash-off times. Solvent vapour hangs around after you stop spraying or spreading, and it can travel along the floor to an ignition source.
7. Keep heat guns, torches, grinders, heaters and cigarettes well away from flammable adhesives, primers and fuels until the vapour has cleared.
8. Wear the PPE listed on the SDS: usually gloves, eye protection and sometimes a respirator.
9. Store flammables away from heat and sparks, and keep incompatible chemicals apart.
10. Know where the spill kit is, and report spills straight away.
11. Know the first aid steps on the SDS before you need them, and where the eyewash is.
12. Wash your hands before eating, drinking or smoking.

QUESTIONS FOR THE CREW

1. What chemicals are we using today?
2. Where are the safety data sheets kept?
3. What PPE does the SDS say we need?
4. What would you do if a product splashed on your skin?
5. Which products today give off flammable vapour, and what ignition sources are nearby?

Reference: WHMIS 2015 (Hazardous Products Act and Hazardous Products Regulations)

RUN BY

	Name	Signature	Date	
Presenter				

ATTENDANCE

Name	Role / company	Signature	Date

Name	Role / company	Signature	Date

Keep this record with your site safety file.