ISOPA PRODUCT STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

“One Step Ahead – 2nd Generation”
Management Empty Drums

Version 2019
Management of empty TDI/MDI drums

Empty drums previously containing diisocyanates can be disposed in two ways:

- Empty drums are collected by a (licensed) drum reconditioner. The decontamination is done by the reconditioning company or

- The empty drums are decontaminated first by the user of the chemicals itself, prior sending to a drum reconditioner or scrap metal recycler

Empty drums must NOT be used for storing drinking water, food or any domestic or agricultural purposes
Why Decontamination?

For Health, Safety and Environmental reasons, decontamination of empty drums is **MANDATORY**, not an option, as you never know where the drum ends up.

Imagine the consequences for people who open a non decontaminated drum:

The person will be exposed to vapor with no information on the product and could be badly affected … and the effect can be delayed as long as 24 hours after exposure.
Why Decontamination?

It’s the user of the original chemicals (diisocyanates) responsibility to comply with that recommendation:

In case of an accident / incident due to the non or insufficient decontamination of a drum, the user of the diisocyanates shall be liable for all the consequences and his image could be badly impacted.

After decontamination, the drum should be clearly marked as being decontaminated. The original labeling with info on TDI/MDI should not be removed from the drum.

Only after proper decontamination, the drum can be used for other purposes, except for food/drinking water containment.
Decontamination of empty Drums

- Drain drum until “drip free”
- Place drum upright for at least 2 hrs. before decontamination
- Preferred decontaminating liquid (5 litres per drum), consists of:
  - Liquid detergent 0,2 – 2%
  - Sodium carbonate 5 – 10%
  - Water to make up for 100%

It is advised to have this decontamination solution available at any time.
Decontamination of empty Drums

Decontamination Process

Step 1  Wear PPE
Step 2  Preparation of the decontamination solution in case not ready
Step 3  Check if the drum is really drained and empty by weighing
Step 4  Insert 5 litres of decontamination solution into the drum
Step 5  Roll the drum
Step 6  Reopen the drum in and 6 -> 3 times
Step 9  After 1 day, order to avoid pressure build up
Step 7  Repetition of step 5 and 6
Step 8  After 2 hrs, repetition of step 5 mix the solid with the liquid inside the drum
Step 10  The next 2 days, repetition of step 9
Step 11  Decant liquid and separate from the solid
Step 12  Leave the drum under cover to stand for at least one week
Step 13  Label as a decontaminated drum
Together we can change reality and perception for the better

‘One Step Ahead’
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