

ISOPA PRODUCT STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

# **“One Step Ahead – 2<sup>nd</sup> Generation”**

## **Management Empty Drums**

# 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 ?

one  
step  
ahead  
Safety in Action

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

one  
step  
ahead

Safety in Action

## 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’***

## Disclaimer

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