

Unvalidated References:

Industrial Safety, Health and Welfare Act 1961

This reprint of this Statutory Instrument incorporates all amendments, if any, made before 25 November 2006 and in force at 1 July 2001.

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Legislative Counsel
Dated 25 November 2006

INDEPENDENT STATE OF PAPUA NEW GUINEA.

Chapter 175H.

Industrial Safety (Chemical Treatment of Timber) Order 1975

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Industrial Safety (Chemical Treatment of Timber) Order 1975

MADE under the *Industrial Safety, Health and Welfare Act 1961*.

Dated 200 .

1. INTERPRETATION.

In this Order, unless the contrary intention appears—

“**the diffusion stage**” means the period during which timber is handled or stored after the application of a solution until such time as the timber is deemed to be treated by the process;

“**solution**” means a solution of salt and water, to which is added certain approved chemicals for the control of mould, sapstain and foaming;

“**treated timber**” means timber that has been treated by the use of chemicals;

“**treatment process**” means the process of preservation of timber by the use of chemicals, and includes—

- (a) the storage of chemicals; and
- (b) the preparation of chemical solutions; and

- (c) the operation of treatment apparatus; and
- (d) the handling of timber during the diffusion stage; and
- (e) the handling and working of treated timber subsequent to the diffusion stage.

2. APPLICATION.

This Order applies to and in relation to the measures for health and safety in connection with the preservative treatment of timber by the use of chemicals and the working of treated timber.

3. APPROVAL FOR USE OF CHEMICALS.

(1) A person shall not use chemicals in a treatment process unless—

- (a) he has first made written application to the Departmental Head for approval to do so; and
- (b) the Departmental Head has so approved.

(2) The application for approval shall state—

- (a) the chemical formulas of the active ingredients and the subsidiary components; and
- (b) information from a reputable scientific journal relating to the use and toxic effect of, and the necessary safety measures in connection with, the ingredients and subsidiary components.

4. DRY-MIXING.

A person other than a person licensed to manufacture in accordance with C.S.I.R.O. Patent No. 246298 (1960-1963) shall not dry-mix component chemicals.

5. PREPARATION OF SOLUTIONS.

(1) The preparation of chemical solutions shall be carried out in a manner approved by the Departmental Head.

(2) The mixing of a solution shall be carried out in such manner as will prevent dust or fumes escaping from the area in which the solution is mixed to the extent that the dust or fumes would constitute a danger to the health of any person employed in the treatment plant.

6. REQUIREMENTS FOR CHEMICAL-PROCESSING AREAS.

(1) Tanks, troughs and containers used for mixing a solution or holding a solution for any purpose shall be—

- (a) constructed so as to prevent loss of any solution through splashing; and
- (b) maintained in good condition and free from leaks; and

(c) provided with close-fitting covers, which shall be kept in place when the tanks, troughs or containers are not in use.

(2) Floors and areas around tanks, troughs or containers shall be—

(a) impervious to moisture and solutions used in the treatment process; and

(b) well drained.

(3) Platforms above floor level shall be provided on floors surrounding treatment plants where employees may have to walk or stand while engaged in the treatment process.

(4) Drains from floors referred to in Subsection (2) shall be—

(a) impervious to moisture and solutions used in the treatment process; and

(b) designed to direct any solution or effluent away from the area and into receptacle or soakage pit.

(5) Soakage pits shall be sited, constructed and protected in such a way as to ensure that there is no danger to persons or animals.

7. MAINTENANCE.

Platforms, floors and areas surrounding tanks, troughs, containers or drip trays shall be—

(a) kept free of sawdust or waste; and

(b) thoroughly cleansed by washing—

(i) at least once each day; and

(ii) at such other times as an Industrial Safety Officer orders.

8. STORAGE OF CHEMICALS.

(1) Chemicals for use in a treatment process shall be stored in containers provided with close-fitting covers, which shall be kept in place when the containers are not in use.

(2) Containers shall be kept in a storage area, which shall be—

(a) kept locked except when chemicals are being withdrawn for use; and

(b) dry and well ventilated; and

(c) maintained in a clean condition and free from spilt chemicals; and

(e) in an area that is well drained; and

(f) used solely for the storage of wood preservatives, pesticides or other chemicals used in a treatment process.

9. DISPOSAL OF USED CONTAINERS.

Containers that hold ingredients for use in a treatment process shall, as soon as the ingredients have been used—

- (a) in the case of metal containers—be holed to prevent further storage of materials; and
- (b) in the case of containers other than metal containers—be destroyed by burning or any other method approved by the Departmental Head,

except where—

- (c) the Departmental Head, in writing, otherwise approves; or
- (d) the container is to be used for the storage of chemicals in another operation in a treatment process.

10. MEDICAL EXAMINATION.

(1) A person employed in a treatment process shall submit himself for a medical examination by a medical practitioner—

- (a) at intervals not exceeding 12 months; or
- (b) at such other times as an Industrial Safety Officer orders.

(2) A medical practitioner shall, as soon as practicable after he has medically examined a person under Subsection (1), forward a report to the employer of the person.

(3) An employer shall, within seven days after being notified in accordance with Subsection (2), submit the results of the medical examination to the Departmental Head.

(4) An employer shall take all reasonable steps to facilitate arrangements for a medical examination of any person employed by him in a treatment process.

(5) A person who, without reasonable excuse, fails to submit himself for a medical examination as required by this section—

- (a) is guilty of an offence; and
- (b) shall not be employed in a treatment process until he has submitted to a medical examination.

(6) Where a medical practitioner certifies that a person examined by him is unfit to be employed in a treatment process, the Departmental Head may, by written notice to the employer, order that the person shall not be employed in a treatment process.

11. RESTRICTION OF PERIOD OF EMPLOYMENT IN TREATMENT PROCESS.

(1) A person engaged in—

- (a) the preparation of solutions; or
- (b) the operation of treatment apparatus; or
- (c) the manual handling of timber during the diffusion stage; or
- (d) the handling of treated timber; or
- (e) any part of a treatment process,

shall not work for a period exceeding four consecutive weeks on that operation.

(2) A person who has been engaged for a period of four consecutive weeks on any operation in a treatment process shall not be permitted to work again on any stage of a treatment process during the period of four weeks after the completion of that period.

12. WORKING OF TREATED TIMBER.

(1) The working of treated timber (including the use of saws, planes or sanding machines) shall be carried out in an area that is—

- (a) well ventilated; and
- (b) well drained.

(2) Wood dust shall be directed away from any persons employed in the treatment area.

(3) Wood dust and plane shavings shall be disposed of as soon as possible by burning and burying the ash or waste.

13. PROTECTIVE CLOTHING AND EQUIPMENT.

(1) An employer shall provide for the use of each person employed in a treatment process at least two sets of protective clothing and equipment of a type approved by the Departmental Head.

(2) Protective clothing and equipment referred to in Subsection (1) shall consist of—

- (a) gloves and a bib-apron that are impervious to moisture and to the solutions used in the treatment process; and
- (b) a shirt; and
- (c) trousers.

(3) In addition to the clothing referred to in Subsection (2), persons employed in the preparation of any solution used in the treatment process shall be provided with—

- (a) a cloth cap; and
- (b) a dust mask of a kind fitted with a means of replacing the filter element.

(4) A person issued with clothing and equipment under this section shall keep it in good order and condition.

(5) An employer shall cause washable clothing provided under this section to be thoroughly washed, cleaned and dried after use each day, and before re-use.

14. WASHING FACILITIES.

(1) An employer shall provide for the use of persons employed by him in a treatment process adequate washing facilities adjacent to the processing areas.

(2) Washing facilities provided under Subsection (1) shall consist of not less than one wash point, in the proportion of one to every five, or fraction of five, employees.

(3) An employer shall—

- (a) ensure an adequate supply of water to each wash point; and
- (b) maintain the supply during working hours and for at least 30 minutes afterwards.

15. DUTIES OF EMPLOYEES.

(1) A person employed in a treatment process shall—

- (a) while he is in the immediate vicinity of a treatment process—wear protective clothing and equipment; and
- (b) remove protective clothing and equipment after ceasing work on a treatment process; and
- (c) before eating a meal—wash his hands and forearms; and
- (d) as soon as possible after ceasing work—
 - (i) remove all his clothing; and
 - (ii) thoroughly wash his whole body with clean water and soap; and
 - (iii) ensure that discarded clothing has been laundered before re-use.

(2) A person employed in a treatment process shall not—

- (a) misuse or interfere with any appliance, clothing, equipment or facilities provided; and
- (b) have, prepare or partake of food or drink in the immediate vicinity of the treatment plant.

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