

APPENDIX D

SAFETY CONSIDERATIONS

Safety is always the first priority in spill responses. Never perform or direct an unsafe act in responding to spill incidents. Ensure your personnel and others are safe. In order to maintain security and safety for all personnel and potentially affected individuals, spill response teams should observe the following precautions throughout the spill cleanup effort:

- Ensure all personnel are accounted for and any injured receive medical attention.
- Establish and enforce a safety zone.
- Keep spectators and other personnel not directly involved in the response out.
- Prevent fires or explosions by controlling electrical power, other sources of ignition, and static electricity sources.
- Designate one person as the safety supervisor to oversee all personnel and response procedures.
- When establishing operational sites, stage emergency equipment, such as fire extinguishers and first-aid materials, near the operation.
- Test the safety zone with an explosion meter, if possible, for vapors which are condensed to explosive concentrations or concentrations harmful to breathing.
- Guard against inhalation of petroleum vapors.
- Wear protective clothing to avoid chemical burns resulting from contact with the petroleum product.
- Wear life jacket or approved flotation device if working on or near water.
- Do not enter tanks without proper safety precautions, equipment, and standby personnel.
- Know pertinent information about the spilled material (for example, flash point, vapor point, toxic vapors, etc.)

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