Outdoor Storage of Raw Materials SOP-32.0

Description of SOP:

Raw materials, by products, finished products, containers, and material storage areas exposed to rain and/or runoff can pollute stormwater. Stormwater can become contaminated when materials wash off or dissolved into water or are added to runoff by spills and leaks. Improper storage of these materials can result in accidental spills and release of the materials.

Purpose of SOP:

The following procedures are to prevent or reduce the discharges of pollutants to stormwater from material delivery and storage.

Suggested Protocols:

General

- Store all materials inside when possible. If it is not feasible, than all outside storage materials areas should be covered with a roof, and bermed, or enclosed to prevent stormwater contact. As the very minimum, a temporary waterproof covering made of polyethylene; polypropylene or hypalon should be used over all materials stored outside.
- Cover and contain all stockpiles of raw materials to prevent stormwater from running into the covered piles. The covers must be in place at all times when work with the stockpiles is not occurring.
- If the stockpiles are so large that they cannot feasibly be covered and contained, implement erosion control practices at the perimeter of the site and at any catch basins to prevent erosion of the stockpiled material off site
- Keep liquids in a designated area on a paved impervious surface within a secondary containment
- Keep outdoor storage containers in good condition
- Keep storage areas clean and dry
- Secure drums stored in an area where unauthorized persons may gain access to prevent accidental spillage, pilferage, or any unauthorized use
- Cover wood products treated with chromate copper arsenate, ammonical copper zinc arsenate, creosote, or pentachlorophenol with tarps or store indoors

Raw Material Containment

- Do not store chemicals, drums, or bagged materials directly on the ground. Place these items in secondary containers if applicable.
- Tanks should be bermed or surrounded by a secondary containment system

Inspection

- Conduct regular inspections of storage areas so that leaks and spills are detected as soon as possible
- Conduct routine inspections and check for external corrosion of material containers. Also check for structural failure, spills and overfills due to operator error, or failure of piping systems
- Visually inspect new tank or containers for damages

Training:

- Train crews in proper material storage
- All employees shall understand stormwater discharge prohibitions, wastewater discharge requirements, and the best management practices (BMPs).
- A training log/sign-in sheet will be used to document training
- Employees will be familiar with the sites spill control plan and/or proper spill cleanup procedures

Spill Response and Prevention:

- Refer to SOP 11.0 Spill Prevention, Control, and Cleanup
- Have spill cleanup materials readily available and in a known location
- Clean up spills immediately and use dry methods (absorbents)
- Properly dispose of spill cleanup material (absorbents)
- Collected waste shall be disposed of properly