



## Emergency Measures in Case of Spillage

For the purpose of preventing environmental incidents and minimizing adverse effects if they occur, we should detect any spills of chemicals or oils as soon as possible, identify and remove causes, and take emergency measures. Following early detection explained in the January issue, we will look at emergency measures in case of spillage in this issue.

### Prepare spill response procedures

Prepare procedures in advance so as to take appropriate measures immediately after detection.

- **Measures suitable for a type of chemicals and a location of spillage**—stopping facilities to remove the source, using absorbent materials, damming drainage, contacting a Wastewater Treatment operator, storing abnormal wastewater temporarily, neutralizing acid/alkali, and so on
- **Equipment required for measures**—pumps, empty drums/containers, absorbent materials, sandbags, personal protective equipment, and so on

Be careful in dealing with hazardous chemicals.



### Provide spill response training and instruction

Provide training and instruction for workplaces where chemicals/oils are used or stored.

- **For operators**—adverse effects on the environment, necessity of emergency measures, spill response procedures, location and usage of equipment, and so on  
*Example: Washing away spilled chemicals or glue into drainage caused wastewater contamination above the regulations standard. Example: Operators didn't respond to overflow of cleaning solution because they didn't recognize it as an environmental risk.*
- **For contractors and drivers**—request to contact site staff immediately if they see a spill  
*Example: Operators discharged contaminated water retained in a dike (bund) because they didn't know that a supplier spilled chemicals in it during unloading.*

### Conduct spill response drills

Conduct drills periodically to ensure that you can respond to a spill appropriately. If you find any problem through a drill, correct it by improving procedures and/or equipment.

- **With procedures**—unclear criteria of response, difficulties in judging, a poor contact system (at nights/on holiday), a lack of hands, and so on  
*Example: Decision to divert abnormal wastewater to an emergency storage pond was delayed because operators couldn't judge the necessity easily. (They had to compare recording paper of the continuous measuring instrument with the criterion of diversion: a ten-minute deviation from the allowable range.)*
- **With equipment**—pump failure, damaged containers, a lack of absorbent materials/sandbags, and so on  
*Example: Spilled chemicals were collected into an used container and then leaked through a crack of it.*



Emergency equipment should be kept ready for use.



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