

# Good Practices

## Control of Hazardous Substances

Chemicals are used in factories in which the garments produced need to go through the laundering and dying process. Workers are exposed to chemical dust/fumes from those sections where chemicals are used. This can have serious effects on the workers' health and consequently productivity. Therefore risks of chemical hazards should be minimized by controlling them. Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) should be used but only once all other measures have been implemented.

### Good practices for control of hazardous substances

- Provide clear signs near and on chemical substances (Figure 1).
- Place Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) on near-by walls so that workers know the risks of the products they are using (Figure 1).
- Display posters on proper handling procedures of dangerous chemicals (Figure 2).
- Isolate or enclose particularly hazardous operations to separate parts of the factory (Figure 3).
- Provide basic training to workers on the handling of dangerous chemicals and how to prevent themselves from negative effects by using adequate PPE (Figure 2).
- Provide sufficient and the correct type of PPE to workers dealing with chemical substances (Figure 3).
- Provide good ventilation and air circulation to dilute chemical hazards and export them out of the workplace.



Figure 1

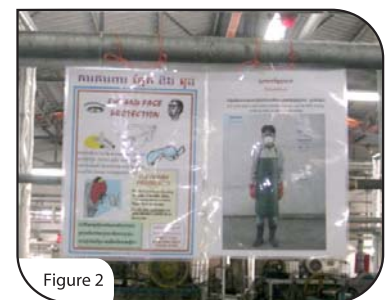


Figure 2



Figure 3

### Benefits:

- ✓ Reduces risk of accident and illness, and consequently sick leave
- ✓ Minimizes future medical costs
- ✓ Healthy workers are more motivated and productive

### How:

- ✓ Establish a good air ventilation/circulation system
- ✓ Establish an isolated section or area, for particularly hazardous chemicals
- ✓ Translate Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) into Khmer and Chinese for workers to read
- ✓ Purchase enough and the right type of PPE
- ✓ Develop a training program for workers on how to deal with hazardous chemicals and how to protect themselves and train workers regularly
- ✓ Develop and display safety signs and posters

### Cost:

**\$ - \$\$\$** (Depending on the recommendations implemented)

**\$** Low cost

**\$\$** Moderate cost

**\$\$\$** High cost