

Incident Report: Painting in an Enclosed Space

What Went Wrong

On September 23, 2014, a survey crewman was painting in a storage room that used to be a mud tank. There was a "wet paint" sign at the entrance of the room but no one had been notified that he was working alone in the room. The fumes made him dizzy and he went to the galley to take a break, where he ran into the company Compliance Officer. The crewman was disoriented and did not recognize the CO even though he knew him well. The CO asked to see the respirator and the MSDS for the paint he was using. The crewman found the SDS sheet and was using a paper dust mask. The SDS recommended PPE was a well ventilated area, eye protection, chemical resistant gloves to avoid skin contact and a respirator to remove vapors or to provide an independent air supply.

What was done to correct it at the time

The CO exercised **STOP WORK** authority. The painting could not be continued due the lack of appropriate PPE. No vapor filtering respirator was available on board. A CAR was created to bring the event to the attention of senior management. A Corrective Action Plan was submitted by the vessel and approved by the DPA. Appropriate half face respirators were ordered for the vessel and the crew was instructed on their use in a safety meeting held by the captain.

| Depart- ment | Responsible Person | Action to take | To be Completed by Date |
|-----------------|-----------------------|---|---|
| ALL | First Mate | Conduct JSAs for EVERY activity you instruct your workers to do. Make sure they recognize the risks of even the most common jobs and do NOT allow the work to take place if proper PPE is not available. Review the SDSs of the paints in your paint lockers. Make a list of paints on your vessel requiring respirators. Laminate and post it on all the paint lockers. Conduct a safety meeting to review this FIR and advise the crew of the posting of respirator required paints. Show them the half face respirator, (not the paper mask) and let them know where the respirators and replacement cartridges are stored. (NOT in the paint lockers) During the meeting, have the crew create a standard JSA for painting in enclosed areas on board your vessel. Order respirators and cartridges if needed. | 17 April 2015 Send paint list requiring respirators, JSA for painting in enclosed spaces on the vessel and the meeting sign in sheet to HSE@tdi-bi.com |

Actions you need to take to prevent a similar incident on your vessel:

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