TOOLBOX TALK

CHARGING BATTERIES IN POWERED INDUSTRIAL EQUIPMENT

29 CFR 1910.178(g)

Charging powered industrial equipment batteries can expose you to corrosive battery acid, electrical shock and explosion hazards from hydrogen gas.

Batteries should only be charged in a designated battery charging area. It's important to make sure these areas are well maintained and properly ventilated with compatible spill response supplies and appropriate showers and eyewash stations to minimize the chance of injuries.

Follow these procedures to prevent incidents while charging batteries:

1. Remove jewelry and wear appropriate PPE, including goggles, face shields, impermeable gloves and an acid-resistant apron or coat
2. Keep metal tools and other metal objects away from the tops of batteries to prevent sparks or an electric arc
3. Verify that the nearest shower or eyewash station is in working order with an unobstructed path
4. Do not smoke in the area and extinguish all open flames, sparks, electric arcs or other sources of ignition
5. Follow the facility's established procedures for filling and charging batteries
6. Clean up spills immediately with the right supplies

OUR SITE SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS/PROCEDURES

Discussion Date: _____

Employee Participants:

Continue employee participants on back if needed ▶

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