ILO Toolkit Control Sheet 304

Control approach 3 Containment

High Throughput Sack Emptying

SCOPE

This control sheet is part of the ILO Chemical Control Toolkit and should be used when the toolkit identifies that a control approach 3 solution is needed. The sheet gives good practice advice on high throughput emptying of sacks and describes the key points you have to follow to reduce exposure to an adequate level. It is important that all the points are followed. Some chemicals are flammable or corrosive and your controls must be suitable for those hazards too. Look at the safety data sheet for more information. This sheet identifies the minimum standards you need to apply to protect your health. It should not be used to justify a lower standard of control than that which may be required for process control or control of other risks.

ACCESS

Keep unnecessary people away from the work area. Ensure that no one is working close by downwind.

DESIGN AND EQUIPMENT

Exhaust Waste bag collection Whole sack feed Closed feed to process

enough for people and tools to operate.

Design the system to allow easy maintenance.

- Consider the need for explosion relief for combustible solids and ensure that equipment is appropriately bonded and earthed.
- Discharge extracted air to a safe place away from doors, windows and air inlets.

Enclose the sack emptying operation and bag removal as fully as possible.

- Keep all openings as small as possible and provide flexible curtains at the conveyor loading point.
- Provide sufficient extraction to ensure an inward airflow of at least 1 metre/second at all openings.
- Consider providing additional extraction at the bag disposal point.
- Ensure that joints to production plant or storage are airtight and fitted with suitable seals.
- Allow sufficient space for the use of tools and removal of equipment.
- Ensure access spaces are large