



Diesel Fuel

Diesel fuel is commonly used in construction machinery, industrial machinery and generators.

There are three primary concerns associated with diesel fuel:

- **Flammability:** Diesel fuel is not nearly as flammable as gasoline or other common fuels (such as ethanol or propane) but it can catch fire and can be very difficult to extinguish. Do not smoke, create sparks or have open flames around diesel fuel.
- **Eye/Skin Exposure:** Diesel fuel can be absorbed through the skin very easily. It can cause eye and skin irritation, redness and even burns. If the diesel is not cleaned off, it will absorb into the skin and cause symptoms identical to inhalation.
- **Inhalation:** If diesel vapors are inhaled it can cause dizziness, nausea, respiratory irritation and increased blood pressure, among other symptoms.

What can you do to limit the harmful effects of diesel fuel?

- When fueling diesel powered vehicles or machinery, or otherwise handling diesel, do so in a well ventilated area.
- If vehicles must be used indoors or in enclosed spaces, extra ventilation should be provided to remove diesel exhaust.
- Wear gloves when working with diesel! Viton or nitrile gloves have been shown to be most effective in protecting against diesel exposure.
 - DO NOT USE VINYL OR BUTYL rubber gloves with diesel, as they offer no protection.



- Maintain diesel vehicles and routinely check emission control devices.
- Avoid breathing vapors.
- Wear a chemical resistant apron, goggles and a face shield when performing operations where splashing is reasonable.



Remember: "No task is so important that it be done at the risk of Safety."