

ON-THE-JOB DERMATITIS

Irritant dermatitis is caused by a list of chemical irritants including everything from cleaning chemicals and machine cutting oil to nickel dust and epoxy resins. Preventing dermatitis can be accomplished the following ways:

1. Eliminate unnecessary exposure to irritants.
2. Substitute harsh chemicals with milder ones.
3. Wash skin with gentle soap and water before and after you use gloves and other personal protective equipment.
4. Dry skin with clean paper towels. Hot-air dryers can dry out skin and cause more irritation.
5. Maintain, clean, and properly use gloves, face shields, and other personal protective equipment. Also use splash guards, hoods, and other available engineering controls.
6. Keep the workplace clean.

Date