

# WORKSAFELY HCA

# SAFETY TALK

## **Diesel emissions**

Many vehicles and pieces of equipment operate with diesel as their fuel source. Direct or indirect contact with liquid diesel or diesel fumes can cause harmful health effects.

## What's the danger?

- Inhalation of diesel fumes can cause:
  - o Irritation of the eyes, nose and throat
  - o Dizziness and lightheadedness
  - Coughing or wheezing
  - o Chest tightness
  - Headache
  - Nausea and vomiting
  - o Increased risk of cancer
- Skin contact with liquid diesel can cause irritation and redness to the exposed area.

## **Protect yourself**

- Regularly inspect equipment and vehicles to ensure proper maintenance and no leaks in exhaust or fuel systems
- Wear and regularly maintain all PPE needed when working with diesel
- Use local exhaust-ventilation fans where diesel fumes are present in closed environments
- If contact is made with diesel, remove contaminated clothing and wash the area with soap and water
- Minimize diesel engine use in areas with inadequate ventilation
- Properly control and clean any diesel spills
- If over-exposed to diesel fumes, leave the area immediately and take deep breaths of fresh air
- Turn equipment and vehicles off when refueling

| Date:                           | Supervisor:         |
|---------------------------------|---------------------|
| Performed by:                   | Location:           |
| Concerns:                       | Corrective Actions: |
| Employee Name:                  | Employee Signature: |
|                                 |                     |
| Construction Safety Excellence™ |                     |