|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **TCS** Vijay | **DOC.NO: M.122.NC** |
| **EFFECTIVE DATE: 04/05/2009** |

**Proper Disposal of Paints and Thinners**

**1. Introduction**

Paints and thinners are hazardous materials commonly used in food manufacturing facilities for equipment maintenance and facility upkeep. Improper disposal can contaminate the environment and pose health risks. This document outlines safe and compliant disposal procedures.

**2. Hazardous Waste Identification**

Paints and thinners are classified as hazardous waste due to their volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and other potentially harmful constituents. Accurate identification of the specific paint and thinner types is crucial for proper disposal. Refer to the Safety Data Sheets (SDS) for each product to understand its hazardous properties.

**3. Waste Minimization**

Before disposal, consider strategies to minimize waste generation:

* Proper Storage: Store paints and thinners in designated areas, away from heat sources and ignition sources. Use sealed containers to prevent evaporation and spillage.
* Careful Application: Minimize waste during application by using appropriate tools and techniques.
* Recycling: Explore possibilities of recycling or reclaiming used paints and thinners, if feasible and compliant with regulations.

**4. Disposal Methods**

* Licensed Waste Hauler: Contact a licensed hazardous waste hauler. They will provide proper collection, transportation, and disposal in accordance with environmental regulations. Ensure they are authorized to handle the specific type of waste.
* Designated Collection Points: Some municipalities may have designated collection points for hazardous waste. Check with local authorities.
* Never Dispose of in Sewer or Landfill: Paints and thinners should never be disposed of in the sewer system or a regular landfill. This is illegal and environmentally harmful.

**5. Documentation & Compliance**

* Waste Manifest: Obtain and maintain a waste manifest document from the licensed hazardous waste hauler. This tracks the waste from generation to final disposal.
* Compliance with Regulations: Ensure all disposal activities comply with the Hazardous Wastes (Management, Handling and Transboundary Movement) Rules, 2016, and other relevant local regulations.
* Record Keeping: Maintain detailed records of paint and thinner purchases, usage, and disposal. This demonstrates compliance with regulations and assists in tracking waste generation.
* Employee Training: Train employees on the proper handling, storage, and disposal of paints and thinners. Regular refresher training is recommended.