

GILES CHEMICAL		
COMPANY PROCEDURE		
Standard Operating Procedure	Page : 1 of 6	Revision :06/08/08 Date :12/01/06
Author: Stacy Lindsey	Title: BLOODBORNE PATHOGEN PROGRAM	

### **Purpose:**

The purpose to this plan is to ensure that all Giles Chemical employees are aware of the risks associated with bloodborne pathogens. In addition, the employees will be educated on the guidelines for handling blood and other bodily fluids.

### **General:**

Bloodborne pathogens are microorganisms carried by human blood (and other body fluids) and cannot be seen with the naked eye. They can be spread through contact with infected blood. If they get into the bloodstream, an individual may become infected and sick.

Most personnel cannot reasonably anticipate coming into contact with blood during their day-to-day work duties. That's why it's imperative that all personnel understand the danger of exposure to bloodborne pathogens and ways to minimize their risk.

Bloodborne pathogens may be present in blood and other materials, such as:

- body fluids containing visible blood
- semen and vaginal secretions
- torn or loose skin

Bloodborne pathogens can cause infection by entering the body through:

- open cuts and nicks
- skin abrasions
- dermatitis
- acne
- mucous membranes of mouth, eyes, or nose

### **Workplace Transmission:**

The most common bloodborne pathogens are HIV, Hepatitis B, and Hepatitis C:

#### **HIV (AIDS)**

HIV, the human immuno-deficiency virus, attacks the body's immune system causing it to weaken and become vulnerable to infections that can lead to a diagnosis of acquired immune deficiency syndrome or AIDS.

HIV is transmitted mainly through sexual contact and sharing contaminated needles, but also may be spread by contact with infected blood and body fluids. HIV is NOT transmitted indirectly by touching or working around people who are HIV-positive.

Employees can prevent getting HIV by stopping the passage of the virus from a person who has HIV to them. In many instances, the employee has control over the activities that can transmit HIV. Since HIV is most frequently transmitted by sharing needles or through sexual intercourse, employees can stop transmission by refusing to engage in these behaviors.

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## **Hepatitis B**

Hepatitis is a general term used to describe inflammation (swelling) of the liver. Alcohol, certain chemicals or drugs, and viruses such as hepatitis A, B, C, D, E, and G may cause hepatitis.

- Hepatitis B is a serious, sometimes fatal disease, caused by a virus that infects and attacks the liver. The virus is transmitted through direct contact with infected blood, semen, or vaginal fluid. It is primarily spread through sexual contact.

- In studies that examine transmission following injections into the skin, HBV is 100 times more contagious than HIV>

**-HBV can also be transmitted indirectly because it can survive on surfaces dried and at room temperature for at least one week!** That's why contaminated surfaces are a major factor in the spread of HBV.

- Each year there are up to 200,000 new infections and 5,000 hepatitis B related deaths in the U.S. (compared to 40,000 new HIV infections per year).

- One in approximately 20 persons now has, or will one day have, hepatitis B

- Transmission of hepatitis B is preventable:

- 1) Use latex condoms during sex
- 2) Do not share needles
- 3) Use universal precautions in the workplace
- 4) Get the hepatitis B vaccination

## **Hepatitis C**

Hepatitis is a general term used to describe inflammation (swelling) of the liver. Alcohol, certain chemicals or drugs, and viruses such as hepatitis A, B, C, D, E, and G may cause hepatitis.

- Hepatitis C is a serious, often fatal disease, caused by a virus that infects and attacks the liver. HCV is more common than hepatitis B and ranks slightly below alcoholism as a cause of liver disease.

- However, HCV is not as infectious as HBV because there are generally lower levels of the hepatitis C virus in the blood than of the hepatitis B virus.

- HCV is primarily transmitted through blood-to-blood contact, mostly commonly through shared needles. The risk of transmitting HCV through sexual contact appears to be low, but precautions should be taken anyway. HCV cannot be transmitted by casual contact such as shaking hands or sharing bathroom facilities.

-Transmission of hepatitis C is preventable:

- 1) Use latex condoms during sex
- 2) Do not share needles
- 3) Use universal precautions in the workplace

- However, unlike hepatitis B, currently there is NO VACCINE for hepatitis C. And also unlike HBV, there is not drug to prevent HCV infection after and exposure.

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## Guidelines for Handling Blood and other Bodily Fluids

Many personnel are concerned that HIV may be spread through contact with blood and other body fluids when an accident occurs at work.

HIV, as noted earlier, has been found in significant concentrations in blood, semen, vaginal secretions, and breast milk. Other body fluids, such as feces, urine, vomit; nasal secretions, tears, sputum, sweat, and saliva do not transmit HIV unless they contain visible blood. However, these body fluids do contain potentially infectious germs from diseases other than AIDS. **If an individual has contact with any of these body fluids, they are at risk of infection from these germs.** It should be remembered that the risk of transmission of these germs depends on many factors, including the type of fluid contacted, the type of contact made, and the duration of the contact.

Very simply, it is good hygiene policy to treat all spills of body fluids as infectious in order to protect personnel from becoming infected with any germs and viruses. The procedure outlined below offer protection from all types of infection, and should be followed routinely.

### How to Handle Blood and Body Fluid Spills

#### Procedure

1. In the event of an injury, assist the employee and contact the appropriate personnel.
2. Whenever possible, shall wear disposable, waterproof gloves when they expect to come in direct hand contact with bodily fluids (when treating bloody noses, handling clothes soiled by incontinence, or cleaning small spills by hand).
3. Gloves and all materials used to assist the injured employee and/or to clean shall be placed in a plastic bag or trash can liner, secured and marked for disposal.
4. Wearing latex or other waterproof gloves (and additional PPE if needed) clean the area soiled with body fluids with a germicide - ¼ cup of bleach to one gallon of water. Mop heads, rags and towels used in the clean-up shall be placed in a plastic bag and marked for disposal. If a mop bucket is used, the disinfecting solution should be promptly disposed of down the drain.
5. For quantities of bodily fluids that do not exceed 25 ml, the plastic bag may be placed in the garbage.
6. For quantities of bodily fluids the exceed 25 ml, the plastic bag shall be placed in a Bio-hazard container, and sealed. The Bio-hazard bucket is located by the First-Aid kit next to Giles' Operator break room. Call the phone number on the container, if container is full, to pick up the container and deliver a replacement.
7. For personal clothing soaked with body fluids, these should be removed as soon as possible and treated separately from other items. Wash separately with bleach in the wash cycle, for material that is not colorfast use non-chlorine bleach about ½ cup to the wash cycle.
8. Uniforms contaminated with bodily fluids should be place in a trash bag, tied, and marked contaminated for cleaning by the uniform vendor. .
9. Vigorously and thoroughly wash with soap and water your hands and arms if they came in contact with bodily fluids

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## Hepatitis B Vaccination

Giles Chemical has designated a group of employees, which consist of a Team Leader, Safety Manager, one Operator per each shift, one administrative employee, and one Operator per each shift at Repackaging Facility who are part of an Emergency Response Team. These employees are designated to handle any medical emergency within their training at the Giles Chemical Main Plant and Repackaging Facility. These employees are at risk of exposure to bloodborne pathogens therefore, they will be offered a Hepatitis B vaccination free of charge. Employees will also be offered antibody testing free of charge. Proof of vaccination and antibody testing will be kept on file in office of Safety Manager. These employees have the right to decline the vaccination but must sign a declination letter that will be filed in the office of the Human Resources Manager.

## Personal Protective Equipment

All employees will have excess to nitrile gloves in case they need to come in contact with blood or bodily fluids. All employees are provided with safety glasses which should protect them from blood splatter. Gloves are located in the cabinet next to First Aid kit in Main Plant.

## Incidents

All incidents will be treated carefully and cautiously. Any employee who has come in personal contact with someone else's blood or bodily fluid will be taken to a physician to ensure that the employee has not been infected. An incident investigation will be performed to find short term and long term corrective to actions to limit exposure to other employees.

## Training

All full time Giles Chemical will receive Bloodborne Pathogen Training on their first day of employment and before they report to their assigned workstation. All full time Giles Chemical employees will receive annual training and the training will be documented and kept in the office of the Safety Manager.

## Sharps Injury log

A log will be kept for any incidents that involve injury from contaminated sharps. The Safety Manager is responsible for maintaining a sharps injury log. The log will document:

- 1) The brand and type of device involved in the incident.
- 2) The area in which the incident occurred.
- 3) An Explanation of how the incident occurred.

## Evaluation and Reviewed

The Safety Manager along with Production Team will be responsible for reviewing this program annually. The Safety Manager along with the Production Team will evaluate area where employees can be exposed to blood or other bodily fluids and take corrective action to eliminate exposure.

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**TRAINING DOCUMENTATION**

	EMPLOYEE	TITLE	SIGNATURE	DATE
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### REVISION HISTORY

#### Revision Date

06/12/08

#### Revision Number

01

#### Revision Description

-Changed Header  
 -Removed Corp. from Document.  
 -Updated Emergency Response Team Participants  
 -Updated reviewers to Production team.