

skin. Use gloves where appropriate. Always wash your hands when they become oily – use soap and water.

14.3 Cleaners

Check the label on the container or the MSDS for the appropriate personal protective equipment to wear prior to working with any chemicals.

Three main types of cleaners are found in the elevator industry.

14.3.1. *Petroleum Naphthas*

- (a) These are petroleum distillates or naphtha-based cleaners commonly used for oil and grease removal. They have a relatively low volatility (do not evaporate fast) and low toxicity. They have an odor like gasoline or kerosene and are generally used in a liquid form, but may also be found in aerosol form.
- (b) Petroleum naphtha cleaners and vapors are flammable. They shall not be used around open flames, welding operations or other ignition sources. Exposure to high vapor concentrations can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, nausea and headaches. Care should be taken to avoid using these materials in areas with inadequate air movement where the vapors can accumulate; ensure proper ventilation before, during and after use.
- (c) Excessive skin contact can cause defatting of the skin, which can lead to skin irritation. Good personal hygiene practices and the use of personal protective equipment (PPEs), such as rubber or neoprene gloves and chemical goggles, can minimize exposure.

14.3.2 *Hydrocarbons*

- (a) These have been used for cleaning electrical components such as controllers and motors. Due to the inherent safety issues with hydrocarbons, water-based cleaners shall be