Disposal of Chemical Waste Standard

Applies To

This standard applies worldwide to all 3M operations.

Introduction and Background or Purpose

3M is committed to the appropriate management and disposal of its manufacturing waste. This commitment includes waste minimization efforts to reduce the amount and hazards of waste materials generated, the recycle or reuse of those materials whenever practical, and the disposal of waste in a manner that best ensures control through final disposition in order to manage current and future risks and liabilities, as well as protect people and the environment.

Requirements or Expectations

Overall responsibility for compliance with this document is assigned all Country, Division, and Plant Management of 3M operations.

For purposes of this standard, chemical waste is defined as any hazardous or non-hazardous solid, liquid or containerized gas. Exclusions include trash, compactor waste, air emissions, liquids discharged to sewer drains in conformance with applicable regulations, waste that can appropriately be recycled, reused, reclaimed or sold, and other waste not conducive to destruction by incineration.

All chemical waste must be disposed of in accordance with all applicable environmental regulations. Chemical waste must be disposed of at an appropriate facility that provides 3M the most appropriate control in managing the complete life cycle of the waste. Methods of final disposal must take into account the method's liability, means of transportation, technology risks, company financial implications and environmental impacts.

Where applicable, 3M-operated incinerators are the presumptive disposal facilities for chemical waste. Where 3M-operated incinerators are not available, Area EHS Managers must define the best local disposal solution. Where available, technologies that combust wastes are the presumptive disposal technologies for chemical waste.