

## Trainer's Tips Summary



# What are Hazardous Materials Emergencies?

- 1 If you don't know what chemical has spilled, assume it is hazardous.
- 2 If you don't know exactly what the dangers are, don't go near the spill or emergency situation.
- 3 Industry employees often get seriously hurt, even killed, at hazardous materials emergencies.

Hazardous materials include:

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  - chemicals that can burn or explode
  - chemicals that cause cancer or other permanent damage
  - poisons
  - germs
  - radioactive materials
  - chemicals that can cause violent chemical reactions.
- 5 A haz mat emergency is a spill or leak that you and your co-workers **cannot handle on your own**. If you need special protective equipment to handle a spill, it's a haz mat emergency.
- 6 Your employer must decide ahead of time which spills you can handle and which ones are emergencies. Descriptions must be written into the Emergency Response Plan required by OSHA.
- 7 OSHA requires that workers who respond to hazardous material emergencies get special protective equipment and training.

**TIP: this is a good place to introduce the  
Back at the Plant chart.**

