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Talk No: 30	Title: CONTROL OF SUBSTANCES HAZARDOUS TO HEALTH (COSHH)
Introduction: Many hazardous substances are used in the construction industry. Ignoring a hazardous substance today is something you may regret tomorrow.	
Main points: - COSHH assessments must be carried out with the aim of elimination, substitution and reduction of exposure to hazardous substances. - Any substance that has a hazard warning label has the potential to do harm – assess the risks before you use it. - Employees must use hazardous substances as directed, following the required safety precautions, and using the required PPE as applicable.	
Discussion points: - Store hazardous materials in suitable containers, ensuring only as much as is needed is in the workplace, and that lids are replaced when not in use. - Read labels on containers – if no label then do not use! - Know the correct precautions and control measures. - Avoid all unnecessary contact with hazardous substances. - Know where the first aid and washing facilities are on site. - Always wash hands after use, and do not eat, drink or smoke when handling hazardous substances. - Ensure there is adequate ventilation when using hazardous substances. - Never mix hazardous substances unless you are sure of what you are doing - Never expose other employees to fumes, dust, gas or any other dangers from hazardous substances. - Don't store hazardous substances above head height. - Always clean up any spillages, dispose of hazardous waste properly. IF A DUST, FUME OR VAPOUR MAKES YOU COUGH, CATCH YOUR BREATH, OR GIVES YOU A HEADACHE THEN IT'S A SUBSTANCE HAZARDOUS TO HEALTH	
Notes:	