

Job site: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Foreman: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
 G.C. \_\_\_\_\_

<b>SMOHIT Safety Sense</b> <b>Toolbox Talks for the Sheet Metal Industry</b>	<h3>Asphalt Exposure</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Asphalt is a blackish-brown substance that is used for road building and roofing, and in rubber and adhesives. Asphalt fumes are produced during its manufacturing and heating processes.</li> <li>Asphalt fumes can irritate eyes on contact, and can also be harmful when inhaled, as they can irritate the nose, throat and lungs; and cause coughing, wheezing, and shortness of breath. Breathing asphalt fumes can also cause headaches, dizziness, and nausea.</li> <li>Because smoking is linked to heart disease, lung cancer, emphysema, and other respiratory problems, it may worsen the respiratory conditions caused by asphalt fume exposure.</li> <li>Exposure to asphalt fumes can cause severe skin irritation and may cause dermatitis and acne-like lesions. Long-term contact to skin can cause pigment change. Exposure to sunlight may worsen the skin effects from asphalt fumes.</li> <li>Most importantly, asphalt fumes contain substances known to cause cancer. There is no safe level of exposure, so all contact should be reduced to the lowest level possible.</li> <li>Workers whose clothing has been contaminated by asphalt should change into clean clothing immediately. Do not take contaminated clothing home, as family members could be exposed. Instead, contaminated clothing should be laundered by an approved cleaner.</li> <li>If you have skin contact with asphalt, immediately wash or shower to remove the substance. At the end of the shift, wash any areas of the body that may have contacted asphalt, whether or not known skin contact has occurred.</li> <li>Approved respirators should be worn when working with asphalt in an enclosed area or where potential exposure levels indicate the need for respiratory protection.</li> </ul>	<h3>Instructor Tips</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Remind workers they should not eat, drink, or smoke where asphalt is handled or stored.</b></li> </ul>
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Reference: OSHA 29 CFR 1926.65