Job site: _____ Date: _____
Foreman: _____ G.C. _____

SMOHIT Safety Sense
Toolbox Talks for the Sheet Metal Industry

Reactives

- Reactives are volatile chemicals that can sometimes react just by being moved. Types of reactives include:
  - Explosives— can be set off by a tiny spark or even friction.
  - Oxidizers—promote the creation of oxygen and cause other substances to burn more rapidly, such as nitric acid.
  - Unstable chemicals—can explode under what seem to be safe conditions, such as heat or slight movement.
  - Incompatible chemicals—are stable on their own but will react if they are mixed, such as acids and bases.
  - Polymerizing chemicals—can create their own chemical reaction, such as epoxies.
- When working with reactives:
  - Be sure you have read and understand the container labels.
  - Be sure that the proper types of fire extinguishers are readily available for the chemicals used at the job site.
  - Store reactives separately from all chemicals, heat, and electrical sources.
  - Keep oxidizers away from flammables and combustible materials such as wood, paper, etc.
  - Keep unstable chemicals in temperature-controlled areas and away from vibrations or sudden movements.
  - Store acids and bases in separate areas.
  - Dispose of reactives in approved containers. Do not pour reactives in the drain, sewer, ground or garbage.
  - Do not smoke around disposal containers.

Instructor Tips

- **Point out safety precautions for reactives being used on the job site.**
- **Point out locations for disposing reactives.**

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Reference: OSHA 29 CFR 1910.1200