

Dipping and Coating Operations

Scenario

A dip tank is a container holding a liquid, other than water, that is used for dipping or coating. An object may be immersed (or partially immersed) in a dip tank or it may be suspended in a vapor coming from the tank.

Examples of operations covered by the dipping and coating standards are paint dipping, electroplating, pickling, quenching, tanning, degreasing, stripping, cleaning, roll coating, flow coating, and curtain coating.

It happened like this

Brad was working the dip tank. Part of the job involved loading and unloading parts from the conveyor that ran through the dip tank. The liquid in the tank was made up of various chemicals and was hazardous to the skin.

Brad was to wear specific types of personnel protective equipment (PPE):

- Rubber boots;
- Gloves of appropriate length and selected for the type of liquid being used in the process;
- Chemical goggles and a face shield whenever splashing of chemicals may occur; and
- Other types of PPE that would be necessary for a particular process including aprons, coats, jackets, sleeves, or other impervious garments.

Today, due to the high temperature, Brad was a little lax with his PPE. The goggles and face shield weren't used; instead Brad wore standard safety glasses with side shields. He wore the rubber boots but had them unzipped and his coveralls tucked into them. Finally, his gloves were rolled down and his coverall sleeves were rolled up.



What are the issues?

What did Brad do right?

What did Brad do wrong?

What do you think should happen next?

