

Bee Sting on Hand

DESCRIPTION:

A technician was on site performing regulatory Compliance Testing on the Vapor Recovery system. A second technician arrived later in the morning and was told that his assistance was not yet required. After discussing the progress of the work, the second technician started walking from the tank field to the convenience store to purchase a beverage. As he passed the dispensers, he noticed several bees in the area. He swatted at one that was near his face, and the bee stung him between his fingers. A few hours later, the technician noticed that his hand had begun to swell and itch. He went to see a doctor at a medical facility authorized by the contractor. The doctor prescribed topical crème and an antibiotic and the technician was cleared to return to work.



Lessons Learned:

- **Be aware of the proper procedures to minimize the impact of bee stings.**
 - o Understand where bees may nest or gather and do not disturb.
 - o Do not swat at bees; avoid sudden, jerky movements which might provoke them.
 - o If stung, quickly scrape area with a fingernail to remove the stinger and sac; wash with soap and water and apply an ice pack to relieve pain.
 - o If swelling or shortness of breath occurs, seek medical assistance immediately
- **If you need medical treatment, ensure that you are accompanied to the health care facility by a fellow employee or Supervisor properly trained on case management.**
 - o Antibiotics are not required for treatment of a bee sting
 - o Ask the doctor if non-prescription medications are available that will result in an equal level of care.
- **Be vigilant at all times while on site, even if on break or lunch.**
 - o As soon as you arrive on the job site, you are in the place of employment and governed by OSHA standards, even if you have not started doing any physical work.

REMEMBER – Safe Behaviors, Hazard Recognition, and Proper PPE

SAFETY ALERT

Contractor First Aid Incident - Wasp sting- Germany

DESCRIPTION:

A Technician of an MFE contractor was going to open a poster box in order to do some repairs. There was vegetation around the poster box and accidentally the worker disturbed a wasp nest that was located close by the poster box. He was immediately surrounded by wasps and he received a sting in the inner area of the ear. The ear started to swell and he was taken to the hospital where an over the counter pomade was applied. He returned to work afterwards.



WHY DID IT HAPPEN?

- When standing close to the vegetation to access the panel, the worker disturbed the vegetation in which a wasp nest was located.

WHAT COULD HAVE PREVENTED THE INCIDENT / LESSONS LEARNED:

- As part of the LMRA, observe work areas close to vegetation for possible presence of all kinds of insects and small animals, look out for presence of nests, open cabinets and panels very carefully.
- Don't make sudden movements; this would only agitate the insects further
- Remove the sting and apply an ice pack to reduce swelling.
- Apply preventive spray if appropriate

**The Last Minute Risk Assessment is a continuous process.
Because... Every Minute can be your last one.**

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Alert Behavior Based Safety System for
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Nobody Gets Hurt