Mining Safety: How To Safely Handle Caustic Soda

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Discussion Date: _____

Employee Participants:

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TOPIC: **How To Safely Handle Caustic Soda**

Dangers

- Caustic soda can cause major skin irritations.
- Caustic soda can cause eye irritation or blindness.
- Exposure can cause burns not immediately painful or visible.

Preparation

- Ensure eye protection and face shields are worn when caustic soda is handled.
- Wear chemical resistant gloves.
- Inspect and decontaminate other personal protection devices prior to use.
- Know locations of eye wash stations.
- Properly label all containers containing caustic soda.
- Post Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) in worker areas.
- Check equipment for leaks that may cause exposure to caustic soda.

Clean-Up

- Clean up spills immediately.
- Use vinegar as a neutralizing agent if caustic soda comes in contact with skin.
- Seek immediate medical attention if caustic soda comes in contact with the eyes or skin.

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