SAFETY MEETING TOPIC

This form shall be completed and kept on file

Job Name _____ Location _____ Job No. _____

Meeting Leader _____ Title _____

Date Held _____ Place _____ Time _____

Subject of Meeting WARNING SYSTEMS WITH COLORS AND NUMBERS

The NFPA and HMISTM systems use colors and numbers to help construction workers identify the type and severity of a hazardous material. Four colored areas are used. Numbers are placed inside 3 of the colored areas to identify the severity of the hazard. The other colored area is white and is used to identify special precautions or protective equipment needed.

THE WITE AREA is different for each system. The NFPA System places symbols in the white area to further describe the hazard. For example, COR identifies the substance as corrosive.

The HMISTM System identifies the type of personal protective equipment (PPE) needed. A letter is placed in the white area. The letter is then cross referenced to a chart or card that describes the personal protective equipment to be used. For example, the letter A placed in the white area may be cross referenced to a chart that identifies safety glasses as the required protective equipment.

THE BLUE AREA – HEALTH HAZARDS are identified by the color BLUE. Health Hazards are evaluated by how poisonous (toxic) a substance is and how it enters your body (breathing, eating or touching). The greater the number appearing in the blue area the more harmful the substance.

0 = MINIMAL HAZARD	Little or no damage will result even with heavy exposure.
1 = SLIGHT HAZARD	Irritation or minor injury. Results are reversible.
2 = MODERATE HAZARD	May cause a permanent minor injury.
3 = SERIOUS HAZARD	Short exposure may cause serious injury. Quick medical attention is required if exposed.
4 = SEVERE HAZARD	Short term exposure may cause DEATH or SERIOUS INJURY.

THE RED AREA – FLAMABILITY is identified by the color RED. The flammability of a substance determines how easily a substance will ignite. The numbers 0 through 4 describe the temperature at which the substance may ignite. The greater the number, the more dangerous and more flammable the substance.

0 = MINIMAL HAZARD	The substance will not usually burn even when heated to 1500° (F).

1 = SLIGHT HAZARD	The substance will burn but must be pre-heated to over 200° (F)
2 = MODERATE HAZARD	The substance may ignite when heated between 100° (F) and 200° (F)
3 = SERIOUS HAZARD	The substance can easily ignite. It may burn rapidly or ignite when exposed to air and temperatures below 100° (F).
4 = SEVERE HAZARD	The substance gives off explosive vapors at room temperature which is 73° (F).

THE YELLOW AREA – REACTIVITY is identified by the color YELLOW. Reactivity describes the changes a substance may go through if exposed to such things as heat, light, shock or other chemicals. When some chemicals change, dangerous levels of energy may be released. The greater number appearing in the yellow area the more hazardous the reaction.

0 = MINIMAL HAZARD	The substance usually does not change even when exposed to fire.
1 = SLIGHT HAZARD	The substance may release energy when exposed to high temperature OR pressure. The substance is usually stable.
2 = MODERATE HAZARD	The substance may change easily but usually does not release energy suddenly causing explosions. It may be explosive with water.
3 = SERIOUS HAZARD	The substance may explode when exposed to extreme temperature, pressure or shock.
4 = SEVERE HAZARD	The slightest shock, pressure or temperature may result in an explosion.