going to the toilet. If hardening or liquid resin should contact the skin it should be wiped off and the affected area washed with soap and water immediately.

The use of solvents should be reduced to the absolute minimum. Suitable rubber gloves should be worn for all cleaning work in which solvents are used. The wearing of rubber gloves does not obviate the need for absolute cleanliness. Contaminated solvent should be disposed of at once in a suitable safety container. Contaminated solvent must not be used to clean tools or equipment.

Employees should be warned against touching their face or other skin areas with hands or gloves which may be contaminated.

Smoking or eating on the job should not be permitted, to eliminate the possibility of contaminating the face and lips with irritants.

Housekeeping.

Meticulous housekeeping standards should be established and enforced.

Bench tops, work surfaces and, in some instances, certain floor areas should be covered with disposable paper, changed at least each shift of operation.

An adequate supply of paper towels should be available so that small splashes or drips of hardener or uncured resin can be wiped up immediately. These should be disposed of in a special closed container specifically provided for this purpose. Similarly, paper cups used for mixing or holding resin should be disposed of as soon as empty to prevent contamination of the work area.

Protective Equipment and Clothing.

Personal protective equipment items and clothing must never be considered an adequate substitute for good engineering, good housekeeping, and a careful, informed worker. However, if used intelligently and maintained in good condition, personal protective equipment can be very effective in minimizing exposure to irritants and toxic vapors.

The personal protective equipment needed for safe operation will vary widely depending on the process and exposure. The need for such equipment should be determined by a careful study of the operation as well as a review of injury experience data.

Lanolin and silicon base protective creams applied to the hands and arms before starting work provide some degree of protection against skin irritation. They leave an oily surface to which the resin will not firmly adhere and facilitate removal when washing with soap and water.

Plastic coated fabric and disposable paper sleeves have been found to give good arm protection against minor splashes and spills.

For light exposures such as potting or cementing of small electrical components where finger dexterity is essential, rubber finger cots or tight fitting fabric gloves may be adequate if reasonable skill and care is used. Fabric gloves should be removed and discarded just as soon as there is visual contamination of their outer surface. After removing the gloves, the employee should wash his hands and arms, re-apply protective cream, and put on new gloves before resuming work.

Hand mixing and dispensing of resins usually require the wearing of rubber gloves. Particular care must be taken in putting on and taking off gloves and sleeves to assure the irritant material is not transferred to their inner surface where it will be in direct contact with the skin.

Coated fabric or disposable paper aprons are generally provided, not only for body protection against occasional minor splashes or spills but also to prevent permanent damage to the employee's personal work clothing.

For operations such as laminating, casting, and surface coating where the nature of the work is such that an employee cannot avoid body contact with the uncured resin, suitable outer work garments are generally provided and maintained by the employer.

When a large volume of epoxy must be handled in poorly ventilated or confined areas, a chemical type respirator or air supplied breathing apparatus may be required to protect the worker from the inhalation of hazardous vapors.

Face and eye protection in the form of face shields or safety glasses may be required for compounding, mixing, and dispensing operations where pressure systems are used or where there is a splashing hazard. Hardeners and uncured resins are extremely damaging to the eye. If the eye is affected, it should be flushed promptly with plenty of water for at least 15 minutes and medical attention obtained for it at once.