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HEALTH AND SAFETY PRECAUTIONS 05

ARC-WELDING - See Welding.

ASBESTOS - See Brake and Clutch Linings and Pads.

BATTERY ACIDS - See Acids and Alkalies

Gases released during charging are explosive. Never use naked flames or allow sparks near charging or recently charged batteries.

BRAKE AND CLUTCH FLUIDS (polyalkylene glycols) - See Fire Combustible.

Splashes to the skin and eyes will be slightly irritating. Avoid skin and eye contact as far as possible. Inhalation vapour hazards do not arise at ambient temperatures because of the very low vapour pressure.

BRAKE AND CLUTCH LININGS AND PADS - See Legal Aspects

These items contain asbestos, which if inhaled may cause lung damage and in some cases, cancer.

The normal handling and fitting of these items should not cause any hazard, but any drilling, grinding or filing of friction materials may produce asbestos dust, and should only be carried out under strictly controlled conditions.

The dust in brake drums etc. contains very little asbestos but care should be taken to avoid inhalation of this dust during servicing of brakes and clutches. The use of drum cleaning units, vacuum cleaning or damp wiping is preferred to the use of air jets for 'blowing-out'.

BRAZING - See Welding

CHEMICAL MATERIALS - GENERAL - See Legal Aspects

Chemical materials such as solvents, sealers, adhesives, paints, resin foams, battery acids, antifreezes, brake fluids, oils and grease should always be used with caution and stored and handled with care. They may be toxic, harmful, corrosive, irritant or highly flammable and give rise to hazardous fumes and dusts.

The effects of excessive exposure to chemicals may be immediate or delayed, briefly experienced or permanent, cumulative, superficial, life threatening or may reduce life expectancy.

DO'S

Do remove chemical materials from the skin and clothing as soon as practicable after soiling. Change heavily soiled clothing and have it cleaned.

Do carefully read and observe hazard and precaution warnings given on material containers (labels) and in any accompanying leaflets, posters or other instructions. Material health and safety data sheets can be obtained from Manufacturers.

Do organise work practices and protective clothing to avoid soiling of the skin and eyes; breathing vapours/aerosols/dusts/fumes; inadequate container labelling; fire and explosion hazards.

Do wash before job breaks, before eating, smoking, drinking or using toilet facilities when handling chemical materials.

Do keep work areas clean, uncluttered and free of spills.

Do store according to national and local regulations.

Do keep chemical materials out of the reach of children.

DO NOTS

Do not mix chemical materials except under the manufacturers instructions; some chemicals can form other toxic or harmful chemicals; give off toxic or harmful fumes, be explosive when mixed together.

Do not spray chemical materials, particularly those based on solvents, in confined spaces; for example when people are inside a vehicle.

Do not apply heat or flame to chemical materials except under the manufacturers' instructions. Some are highly flammable and some may release toxic or harmful fumes.

Do not leave containers open. Fumes given off can build up to toxic, harmful or explosive concentrations. Some fumes are heavier than air and will accumulate in confined areas, pits etc.

Do not transfer chemical materials to unlabelled containers.

Do not clean hands or clothing with chemical materials. Chemicals, particularly solvents and fuels will dry the skin and may cause irritation with dermatitis. Some can be absorbed.

July 1981 Page 3

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