D-TAM™ Efficacy Studies

Most Material Safety Data Sheets recommend the use of soap and water to remove toxic chemicals from the skin. Yet studies demonstrate that using soap and water is less effective in removing chemicals and may increase exposure to water insoluble (lipophilic) chemicals.

OSHA in its methylene dianiline (MDA) standard, Federal Register, Vol. 57, No. 154, August 1992, recognized that the use of solvents may enhance absorption of MDA and soap and water wash is minimally effective. However, OSHA requires "that workers subject to dermal exposure be instructed to immediately wash the exposed areas with soap and water or any media which does not increase the absorption properties of MDA into the skin". This study compared the ability of water, 50% soap and water, corn oil and a polyglycol based cleaner to minimize absorption of isocyanate (MDI) into skin. The data show that corn oil (control) and D-TAM® (polyglycol based cleaner) are more effective than water or soap and water in limiting the transfer of MDI into the skin.¹