

BP OIL -- TOLEDO REFINERY

Certified	Area: Refinery Wide	Procedure No.: SAF 052
Effective Date: September 26, 2008	Winter Weather Hazards	Rev. No.: 2 Reviewed by TSE 12/05
Written By: JL Keller	Auth. By: D. C. Durnwald (signature on file)	Page 1 of 3

SCOPE	Reduce risks of winter weather accidents through increased vigilance and preventative actions.
HEALTH Special PPE & Special Hazards	Slips, trips and falls Vehicle driving
SAFETY	Standard PPE
REFERENCE DOCUMENTS	N/A
SPECIAL MATERIALS & EQUIPMENT	N/A
QUALITY	N/A
ENVIRONMENTAL	N/A

OVERVIEW

Winter brings with it the inclement weather conditions which create some abnormal operating and outdoor work problems. The normal movements of people and vehicles are made more hazardous by the presence of ice, snow and fog. Sub-freezing temperatures have an adverse effect on both people and equipment. Hazards which are normally visible are often hidden by fog clouds created by steam and hot water. Winter also brings longer nights, making it more difficult to see many weather-induced hazards.

It is not feasible to prevent or control all weather-induced hazards. It is possible, however, to reduce accident risks through increased vigilance and certain preventative actions.

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| 1.0 | Equipment and Vehicle Cold Weather Precautions | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unusual caution must be used to avoid slipping and falling when walking in areas with snow and ice. Securely grasp handrails to go slowly up and down stairways and ladders. • Icicles should be removed before they fall onto people or equipment. • Steam hose flows should be kept just low enough to prevent freezing and left where condensing vapor will not form ice on walkways and icicles on structures. • If a drain valve is found to be plugged, recluse the valve before taking steps to heat the line. The sudden release of an ice plug through an open drain could result in injury or fire. • Water should be kept from freezing in confined spaces because it can exert tremendous pressure on the space. • Slippery road surfaces greatly increase safe stopping distances. • Slow down to a “crawl” to turn corners on ice or packed snow. • The hazard of carbon monoxide increases in cold weather. Windows should be opened enough to permit air circulation. • If it is necessary to drive through steam clouds, slow down, turn headlights on and sound your horn. |
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NOTE: Vehicles may only be left running in accordance with SAF-082 Vehicle Safety Policy.

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| 2.0 | Personal Cold Weather Precautions | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The effects of cold on the body are due to both temperature and wind. Temperatures which do not cause undue discomfort in still air quickly chill the body when the wind blows. Chilling hinders manual dexterity and slows a person’s reaction to danger. Subfreezing temperatures plus wind increase the risk of frostbite of exposed skin or extremities. When prolonged work is done in freezing weather, wind shelters should be set up. People who perform outdoor work should exercise the feet and hands at intervals to promote blood circulation. |
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- Several layers of light weight garments worn under fire-retardant clothing keep the body warmer than heavier garments. When several light weight under garments are worn, it is much easier to adjust comfort to temperature changes by taking off or putting on one or two garments. Feet should be kept warm and dry with absorbent socks, water repellent shoes and high overshoes. Gloves should be warmly lined or have interliners. Wear a safety hat liner that covers the cheeks and neck.
- Subfreezing temperatures on windy days can cause frostbite of exposed facial areas, fingers and toes. A tingling or a cold, numb feeling, often without pain, are frostbite warnings. Further freezing turns the skin's normal color to a paler, glossy shade. To treat frostbite, cover or bathe the part with warm (90°-100°F) water – never use hot water. Continue warm water treatment until normal color and sensation return. Never rub a frostbitten area with snow or coarse cloths. After thawing, dry and cover the part carefully and obtain medical care.
- Unusual caution must be used to avoid slipping and falling hazards created by snow and ice. As a result of thawing and refreezing, a pathway that is safe by day may be iced at night. Grasp handrails to go slowly up and down slippery stairways. Check ladder rungs and side rails for ice or snow while climbing or descending. In crossing snow covered areas, beware of tripping or slipping hazards. Vapor clouds from steam trap or other steam source discharges can hide burn hazards. Wherever possible, detour around these clouds.

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