
Construction and Industry

CHMM
Certified Hazardous Materials Manager (CHMM) Exam



Questions and Answers (PDF)

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Question: 1

What is the penalty for a knowing violation of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act?

- A. A civil penalty of no more than \$27,500 per day and/or a criminal penalty of no more than one year in prison
- B. A civil penalty of no more than \$27,500 per day and/or a criminal penalty of no more than five years in prison
- C. A civil penalty of no more than \$50,000 per day and/or a criminal penalty of at least 2 years, but no more than 5 years in prison
- D. A civil penalty of no more than per day and/or a criminal penalty of no more than 15 years in prison

Answer: C

Explanation:

A knowing violation of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) may carry a civil penalty of no more than \$50,000 per day and/or a criminal penalty of no more than five years in prison. A violation of the Toxic Substances Control Act may carry a civil penalty of no more than \$27,500 per day and/or a criminal penalty of no more than one year in prison (Choice A). A violation of the Clean Air Act may carry a penalty of no more than \$27,500 per day and/or a criminal penalty of no more than five years in prison (Choice B). An act of knowing endangerment under the RCRA may carry a penalty of no more than per day and/or a criminal penalty of no more than 15 years in prison (Choice D). It is important to note that a knowing violation is any violation in which an individual knew that a substance could be hazardous, but did not know that it would cause significant harm. An act of knowing endangerment, on the other hand, is any violation in which an individual knew that a hazardous substance was likely to cause significant harm.

Question: 2

The Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) Act's Lockout/Tag out Standard requires an employer to

- A. install emergency control systems and/or implement emergency procedures that will allow the employer to limit the amount of airborne toxins to which an employee will be exposed.
- B. provide employees with equipment that will limit the amount of lead to which the employee will be exposed.
- C. install a device in any machine that may expose an employee to electricity, a hazardous chemical, or another hazardous substance that will prevent the machine from automatically starting when an employee is near it.
- D. provide employees with information about the hazards that they may be exposed to, the procedures that employees should use to reduce the risk of injury from these hazards, and the actions that the employer and employees are expected to take in the event of an accident.

Answer: C

Explanation:

The Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) Act's Lockout/Tag out Standard requires an employer to install a device in any machine that may expose an employee to electricity, a hazardous chemical, or another hazardous substance that will prevent the machine from automatically starting when an employee is near it. The Air Contaminants Standard requires an employer to install emergency control systems and/or implement emergency procedures that will allow the employer to limit the amount of airborne toxins to which an employee is exposed (Choice A). The Lead Standard requires an employer to provide employees with equipment that will limit the amount of lead to which an employee is exposed (Choice B). Finally, the Hazard Communication Standard requires an employer to provide employees with information about the hazards that they may be exposed to, the procedures that employees should use to reduce the risk of injury from these hazards, and the actions that the employer is expected to take in the event of an accident (Choice D).

Question: 3

A train carrying mixed waste from a nuclear power plant would be regulated by the

- A. US Department of Transportation (DOT), the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), and the Department of Energy (DOE).
- B. US Department of Transportation, the US Department of Defense (DOD), and the US Department of Energy.
- C. US Department of Transportation, the US Department of Energy, and the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.
- D. US Department of Transportation and the Environmental Protection Agency.

Answer: A

Explanation:

A train carrying mixed waste from a nuclear power plant would be regulated by the US Department of Transportation (DOT), the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), and the Department of Energy (DOE) because mixed waste is considered to be both hazardous and radioactive waste. Radioactive waste that is being transported for military and/or defense purposes would be regulated by the US Department of Transportation, the US Department of Defense (DOD), and the US Department of Energy (Choice B). Radioactive waste that is being transported for a non-military purpose would be regulated by the US Department of Transportation, the US Department of Energy', and the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (Choice C). A train or other vehicle transporting hazardous waste would be regulated by the US Department of Transportation and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). It is important to note that there may be situations in which a facility will be required to comply with the regulations of other agencies in addition to these agencies.

Question: 4

What is the IARC?

- A. An international organization that studies a variety of chemical substances to identify substances that may cause or increase an individual's risk of cancer
- B. An international organization that establishes standards designed to ensure that a variety of different industries are able to use a series of uniform procedures, methods, and data formats
- C. An international organization that establishes standards and international regulations for the transport of dangerous goods by sea to ensure that hazardous cargo is transported in a safe and responsible manner
- D. An international organization that establishes standards and international regulations for the transport of dangerous goods by air to ensure that hazardous materials can be transported in a safe and responsible manner

Answer: A

Explanation:

The International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) is an international organization that studies a variety of chemical substances to identify substances that may cause or increase an individual's risk of cancer. The International Organization for Standardization (ISO) is an international organization that establishes standards designed to ensure that a variety of different industries are able to use a series of uniform procedures, methods, and data formats (Choice B). The International Maritime Organization (IMO) is an international organization that establishes standards and international regulations for the transport of dangerous goods by sea to ensure that hazardous cargo is transported in a safe and responsible manner (Choice C). The International Air Transport Association (IATA) is an international organization that establishes standards and international regulations for the transport of dangerous goods by air to ensure that hazardous materials can be transported in a safe and responsible manner (Choice D).

Question: 5

A facility is required to make a report to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for

- A. any event that causes more than \$50,000 in property damage or any event in which an individual is killed, in which an individual is hospitalized, in which public areas or private homes and businesses may need to be evacuated, and any event in which the operation of an aircraft or the operation of any major mode of transportation may be significantly hindered or become impossible.
- B. any event in which an employee is killed and/or at least three employees are hospitalized.
- C. any event in which a facility releases a radioactive substance, in which a facility may release a radioactive substance, or in which a fire breaks out in a facility containing a radioactive substance.
- D. any event in which a facility releases a hazardous substance into the environment in excess of the reportable quantity (RQ) established for that substance.

Answer: D

Explanation:

A facility is required to make a report to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for any

event in which a facility releases a hazardous substance into the environment in excess of the reportable quantity (RQ) established for that substance. A facility is required to make a report to the Department of Transportation (DOT) for any event that causes more than \$50,000 in property damage or any event in which an individual is killed, in which an individual is hospitalized, in which public areas or private homes and businesses may need to be evacuated, and any event in which the operation of an aircraft or the operation of any major mode of transportation may be significantly hindered or become impossible (Choice A). A facility is required to make a report to the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) for any event in which an employee is killed and/or at least three employees are hospitalized (Choice B) A facility is required to make a report to the Department of Energy (DOE) for any event in which the facility releases a radioactive substance, in which the facility may release a radioactive substance, or in which a fire breaks out in a facility containing a radioactive substance (Choice C).

Question: 6

All of the following methods are effective ways for a Certified Hazardous Materials Manager (CHMM) to reduce the economic impact that the production, use, storage, or disposal of a hazardous substance may have on a facility EXCEPT:

- A. Checking the facility's permits and reports to make sure that the facility has the appropriate permits, is filing the appropriate reports, and that the facility does not have any problems that need to be addressed.
- B. Examining the way that substances are used within the facility and the purpose of each substance in the facility to determine if there are suitable alternatives.
- C. Reducing the amount of training that each of the individuals within the facility receives, so that each individual is only taught the basic skills that he/she needs for his/ her position.
- D. Consulting employees, experts, and other individuals within the industry to identify new methods and techniques.

Answer: C

Explanation:

A Certified Hazardous Materials Manager (CHMM) may be able to reduce the economic impact that the production, use, storage, or disposal of a hazardous substance may have on a facility by checking the facility's permits and reports to make sure that the facility has the appropriate permits, is filing the appropriate reports, and that the facility does not have any problems that need to be addressed. The CHMM would do so by examining the way that substances are used within the facility and the purpose of each substance in the facility to determine if there are suitable alternatives (or, in other words, areas in which source reduction, waste minimization, inventory control, or raw material substitution is possible); and by consulting employees, experts, and other individuals within the industry to identify new methods and techniques. Reducing the amount of training that each individual receives to the bare minimum, on the other hand, is not an effective method because it typically raises the risk that an incident or violation will occur.

Question: 7

What is the first thing that a facility's security team should do during an emergency in which a hazardous substance has been released?

- A. Check the emergency plan to identify the appropriate procedures and the appropriate course of action
- B. Identify the best way to evacuate the building and help with the evacuation
- C. Secure the site and wait for emergency personnel
- D. Call for help

Answer: C

Explanation:

The first thing that a facility's security team should do during an emergency in which a hazardous substance has been released is secure the site and wait for emergency personnel. This is because the security team's primary objective is always to protect the people who are inside the facility, as well as the people who are outside the facility. This is important because an individual who uses the chaos of an emergency (such as an innocent bystander, a reporter, or even a terrorist) to enter the facility may not only put him or herself at risk but also put the lives of every person both in and near the facility at risk as well. Choices A and B are incorrect because the security team should already know the procedures that they are expected to take during an emergency, and each and every employee should already know the evacuation system. Choice D is incorrect because the facility's management or the facility's incident command team should call for help and report the incident while the security team secures the site.