# **7 Steps of Spill Response:**

**Assess the Risk:** From the moment a spill occurs and the throughout the response, determine the risks that may affect human health, the environment, and property. Always put SAFETY FIRST! If possible, identify the material spilled and try to determine how much was spilled.

**Select Personal Protective Equipment (PPE):** Choose the appropriate PPE to safely respond to the spill. Consult Safety Data Sheets (SDS) and literature from the chemical and PPE manufacturers for the best recommendations. If you are uncertain of the danger and the material is unknown, assume the worst and use the highest level of protection. Remember SAFETY FIRST.

**Confine the Spill:** Speed counts. Limit the spill area by blocking, diverting or confining the spill using sorbents and sorbent socks. Stop the flow of liquid before it has a chance to contaminate a water source (be on the lookout for drains!).

**Stop the Source:** After the spill is confined, stop the source of the spill. This may be a simple as turning a container upright or plugging a leak in a damaged drum. Transfer liquids from the damaged container to a new one.

**Evaluate the Incident and Implement Clean Up:** Once the spill is confined and the leak has been stopped, it is time to reassess the incident and develop a plan of action for implementing the Spill Clean Up. Spills are commonly absorbed. Pads should be used to absorb the remainder of the spill. Simply place the pads throughout the spill area. Unused absorbents are not hazardous. However, once the sorbents are saturated with oils, solvents, etc, they may be considered hazardous waste and should be disposed of as such according to federal, state and local laws for the liquids they have absorbed.

**Decontaminate:** Decontaminate the site, personnel and equipment by removing or neutralizing the hazardous materials that have accumulated during the spill. This may involve removing and disposing of contaminated media, such as soil, that was exposed during the spill incident. An effective decontamination area ensures the health and safety of emergency responders.

**Complete Required Reports:** Complete all notification and paperwork required by federal, state and local guidelines for reporting all spill incidents. Failure to do so can result in severe penalties.

## **How to Use SpillTech Sorbents:**

**Step 1:** Clean all loose sorbents, rags and other debris from the area

**Step 2:** Place a SpillTech sorbent directly on top of the problem area. Watch as it pulls in liquids into the sorbent.



**Step 3:** When the pad or roll is fully saturated, simply pick it up and dispose of it. You'll know when it's fully saturated when you see liquids puddling around or passing underneath the sorbent. Don't forget to replace it with a fresh SpillTech sorbents.

#### **Helpful Hints:**

- Cover a spill evenly, making sure even stray droplets are covered
- For best results, use white sorbents for oil-only applications (will repel water) and gray or yellow for universal or hazardous applications.
- Although the sorbents themselves are not hazardous, the liquid they absorb might be. A sorbent will take on the hazardous characteristics of anything it absorbs. Therefore, it is important that you dispose of the sorbent in a manner that is consistent with the liquid itself. Consult the chemical's Safety Data Sheet (SDS) for further disposal information.

### **How to Use SpillTech Socks:**

Step 1: Clean all loose sorbents, rags and other debris from the area

**Step 2:** Place a SpillTech absorbent sock around the problem area. Watch as it pulls in liquids to center of sock.



**Step 3:** When the sock is fully saturated, simply pick it up and dispose of it. You'll know when it's fully saturated when you see liquids puddling around or passing underneath the sock. Don't forget to replace it with a fresh SpillTech sock.

#### **Helpful Hints:**

- Before placing socks, it helps to hold the sock at each end and shake filler until it is even.
- For best results, do not stacks sock on top of loose absorbents or each other.
- When using more than one sock to surround a problem area, make sure you overlap the edges by 3 inches. This will prevent leaking between the socks.