

AROUND ONE PERSON EVERY THREE DAYS IS DIAGNOSED WITH A LUNG CANCER CAUSED BY DIESEL ENGINE EXHAUST EMISSIONS EXPOSURE AT WORK

DIESEL ENGINE EXHAUST EMISSIONS CAN GIVE YOU LUNG CANCER OR POSSIBLY BLADDER CANCER

ABOUT 1.2 MILLION AUSTRALIANS ARE EXPOSED TO DIESEL ENGINE EXHAUST EMISSIONS AT WORK

A WASTE OF BREATH? DIESEL ENGINE EXHAUST EMISSIONS CAN KILL YOU



A guide on the dangers of workplace diesel engine exhaust emissions and what you can do to reduce your risk.

Tell your boss or your health and safety rep if you notice any of these things. If you're not happy with their response contact the health and safety regulator in your state or territory.

The risk management process and hierarchy of risk control (figure 1) can help you to decide what the best controls are for your workplace.

Watch out for signs that diesel engine exhaust emissions may be a problem:

- walls or surfaces are covered in soot
- there is a smoky haze when diesel engines are used
- there is blue or black smoke coming from diesel engine exhaust emissions
- there are complaints of irritated eyes and throat, nausea and headaches

WHAT TO LOOK FOR

If you want to know more about diesel engine exhaust emissions or if you're not sure about the actions that have been taken to measure your exposure and protect you from diesel engine exhaust emissions, contact:

- your supervisor, manager or boss
- your workplace health and safety representative
- your union representative
- your state or territory workplace health and safety representative (find their contact details at safeworkaustralia.gov.au)

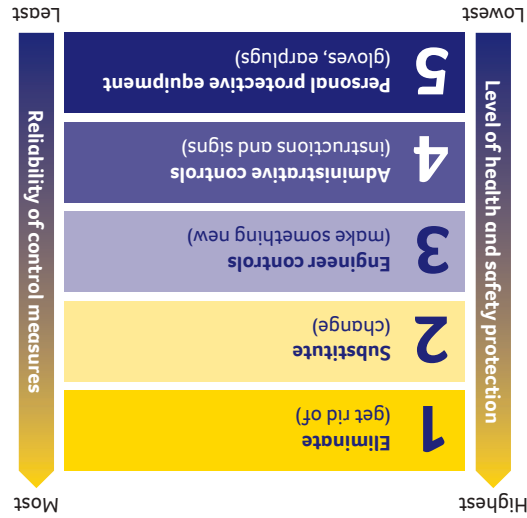
For more information and resources visit Cancer Council at:

cancer.org.au/workcancer



Begin at number one, these types of controls should be used first if possible. We have given you some example scenarios, can you think of any that you could use in your workplace?

Figure 1. Hierarchy of risk control



Control scenarios

5	Wear an air supplied or air purifying respirator
4	Swapping jobs around
4	Making sure engines are turned off when they're not being used
3	Using local exhaust and forced dilution ventilation or filters
3	Checking and maintaining all engines properly
2	Use ultra-low sulphur diesel fuels
1	Changing to a different fuel source e.g. electric or propane

CHECK IT OUT

If you've had a cough for more than three weeks or have blood in your urine, then see your doctor.



KNOW THE EXPOSURE, USE THE CONTROLS, REDUCE YOUR RISK

cancer.org.au/workcancer

For information and support
Call us on 13 11 20

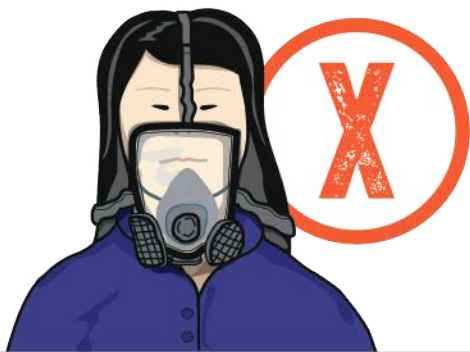
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RULES ARE THERE FOR A REASON

- do what you're asked to do, to protect yourself and others
- do your job in the way you've been asked to do it - short cuts can be dangerous

If you wear protective gear, make sure it fits, and that you know how to use it. Wear it every time you need to.



ALL IN IT TOGETHER

Make sure your workmates follow the rules - if they don't they could be risking your health, not just theirs.

This is also a Work, Health and Safety Law.



PROBLEM?

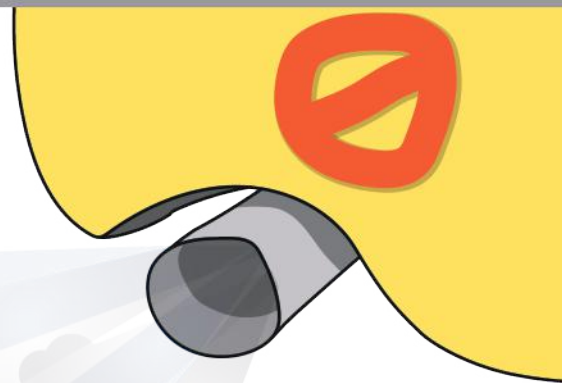
- if you're not sure how to use equipment or safety controls properly, ask your boss, workplace health and safety representative or workmate
- if something is broken, faulty, or has gone missing, tell your boss or workplace health and safety representative immediately and make sure your workmates know and don't use it either



HOW DO I KNOW I'M NOT BEING EXPOSED TO A DANGEROUS LEVEL OF DIESEL ENGINE EXHAUST EMISSIONS?

Air monitoring can be used to check if exposure to diesel engine exhaust emissions is being reduced by the controls that are in place. An occupational hygienist can assist with air monitoring.

Visit aioh.org.au to locate an occupational hygienist near you.



RECOMMENDED RESOURCES

- Cancer Council's, *kNOw Workplace Cancer diesel engine exhaust factsheet*
- Safe Work Australia's, *Guidance for Managing the risks of Diesel Engine Exhaust*
- Australian Institute of Occupational Hygienists', *Diesel Particulate Matter and Occupational Health Issues- Position Paper*