



Internal Combustion Engines – Ventilation Policy

Statement:

The operation of internal combustion engines in an enclosed work area may result in hazardous exposures to exhaust gases, fumes and other particulates, including carbon monoxide and diesel fumes. Amendments to Section 47 of Ontario Regulation 213/91 *Construction Projects* clarifies the need to control worker exposure to these exhausts.

Policy:

When an internal combustion engine is being exhausted into a work area, the supervisor shall ensure that air quality is maintained at a healthy level. Regular monitoring of air quality is required.

Practice:

In order of priority, the supervisor shall take these precautions when internal combustion engine fumes accumulate in the work area:

1. Fit a non-flammable flexible hose to the exhaust pipe of the engine taking fumes well away from the work area, preferably out of the confined workspace;
2. Provide fans to dilute the exhaust fumes;
3. Conduct emissions test prior to use in a confined space; and,
4. Emission control (scrubbers) are required on diesel powered equipment in enclosed areas.