

Script for Module Seven

Georgia Tech Susan Harwood Grant

Slide 1

Welcome to Module 7 of our hazard communication training sessions. This training will cover quaternary ammonium compounds, also known as quats.

This material was produced under grant number SH-05046-SH8 from the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, U.S. Department of Labor. It does not necessarily reflect the views or policies of the U.S. Department of Labor, nor does the mention of trade names, commercial products, or organizations imply endorsement by the U.S. Government.

Slide 2

Quats are disinfectants that disrupt cell membranes of bacteria, microbes, fungi, amoeba and some viruses. They can have quick contact time with a surface, 3 to 10 minutes depending on application and manufacturer instructions. Check with your supervisor for your specific product. They are generally free of odor and color, but the product containing the quat such as a detergent may have odor and color added.

Slide 3

Quats are generally used as a surface treatment for soils on floors, walls, and ceilings. They are highly stable and have little corrosive action on metals when used at recommended concentrations.

Slide 4

Possible health hazards associated with employee exposure to quats are contact dermatitis, which is a reddening, swelling of the skin like a rash as picture here; respiratory irritation like wheezing or coughing; and if they are ingested they can produce gastro-intestinal irritation, with symptoms such as nausea and vomiting. Some individuals can also become sensitized to quats and suffer contact dermatitis and respiratory irritation with even minimal contact. If you experience any of these symptoms, report them to your supervisor or safety department.

Slide 5

Protective control strategies for quats are to prevent contact with the skin by using protective clothing, such as aprons, coveralls, gloves, and safety glasses or goggles. Thoroughly rinse with water skin that comes in contact with quats as soon as possible.

Slide 6

A Special Thanks for the Translation Services provided by The Translation Station, Inc. Language Solutions Made Simple.