



Hazard Alert

Know the dangers of cyanide

Signs of exposure

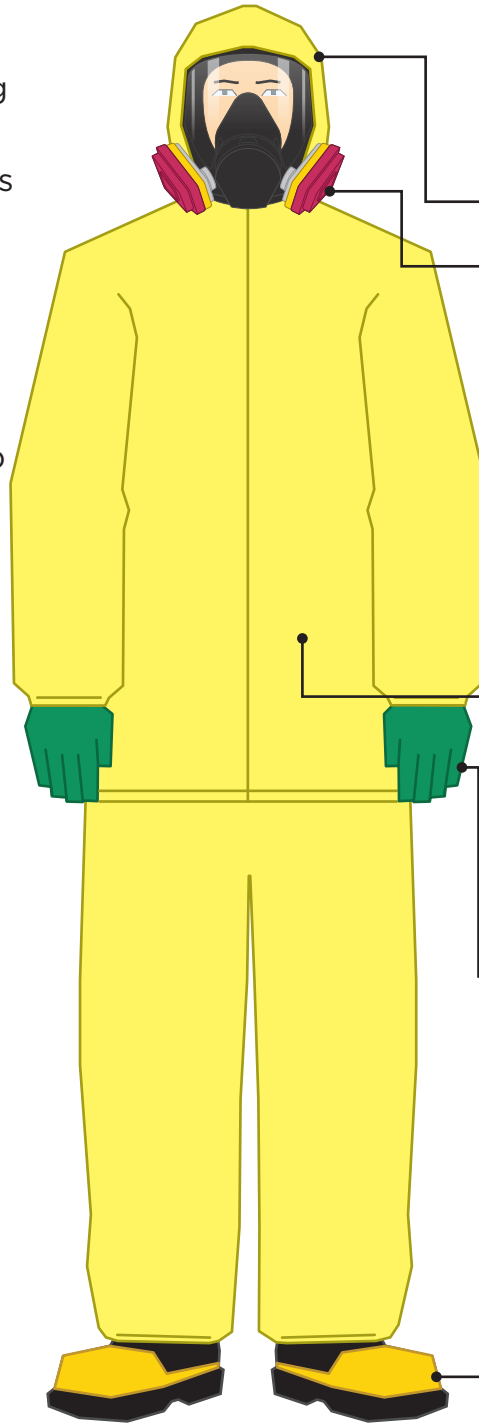
-  Causes changes in breathing
-  Eye irritation, bloodshot eyes
-  Cherry red skin
-  Headache and dizziness
-  Feeling sick and throwing up
-  Change in heart rate
-  Confusion and agitation



Cyanide is a corrosive harmful chemical used in industrial processes like gold extraction and in laboratories.

- It can be a liquid, solid, or gas
- Even a small amount can be deadly when it directly enters the body
- Stops cells from delivering oxygen to the body
- Ontario has a specific occupational exposure limit for cyanide

Chemical-resistant personal protective equipment (PPE) must be worn



- Hardhat
- Full-face respirator with a combination organic vapour, acid gas, and particulate cartridge or filter to protect against any cyanide dust in the air
- During emergency response, use full-face-piece self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA)
- Totally encapsulating chemical-resistant suit or disposable coveralls (hooded, elastic cuffs, attached boots)
- Wear clothing under disposable coveralls
- Chemical-resistant gloves (inner and outer layer)
- Chemical-resistant boots with steel toe (optional attached boots or boot covers)

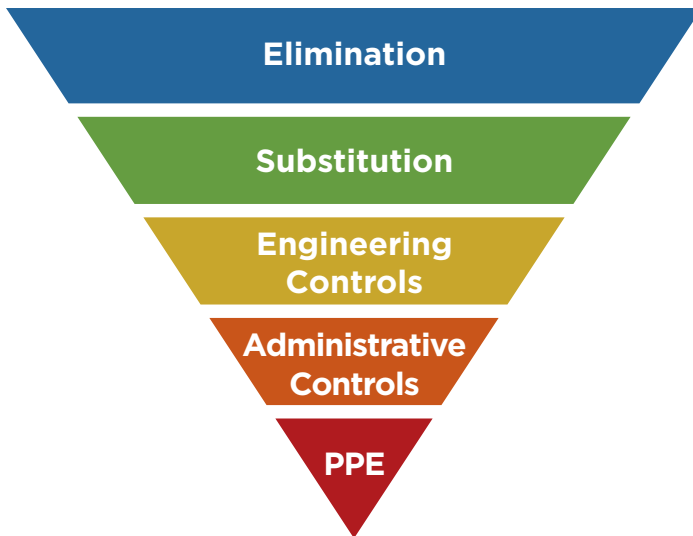
Download online:
workplacesafetynorth.ca/en/resource/cyanide-hazard-alert-and-information-sheet



Occupational illness prevention

Industrial hygiene means making sure workplaces are safe by predicting, identifying, evaluating, and managing potential dangers that could harm workers' health. An occupational disease is a health problem caused by the work environment. It can be serious, cause disabilities, and even be fatal.

Hierarchy of controls



Related services

- Ventilation assessment, manual, and training
- Industrial hygiene testing and training
- Free training material on diesel emission hazards
- Radon assessment
- Workplace hazardous materials information system training (WHMIS)

About Workplace Safety North

Your health and safety partner

An independent not-for-profit, Workplace Safety North (WSN) is one of four sector-based health and safety associations in Ontario. Headquartered in northern Ontario, WSN administers the provincial mine rescue program and provides province-wide Ministry-approved workplace health and safety training and services for the mining and forest products industries.

Mining Risk Assessment Guideline

Since 2012, the Ministry of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development (the Ministry) has undertaken a number of initiatives to promote the use of risk assessment and management to help make Ontario workplaces safer.

Legal requirements

In January 2017, the Ministry released a risk assessment guideline for mines and mining plants in accordance with amendments to sections 5.1, 5.2, and 5.3 of Regulation 854 Mines and Mining Plants of the Occupational Health and Safety Act. It is the employer's responsibility to ensure they are complying with the risk assessment requirements

[Visit the WSN Risk Management webpage](https://www.workplacesafetynorth.ca/en/risk-management) to access resources and tools (<https://www.workplacesafetynorth.ca/en/risk-management>)

The internal responsibility system (IRS) is a system where everyone shares responsibility for occupational health and safety that is appropriate to their role and function within the workplace. All workplace parties — including employers, managers, supervisors, and workers — need to do their part to raise awareness of risks, and follow and promote safety procedures to help make workplaces safer.

With health and safety specialists and mine rescue officers located across the province, WSN and its legacy organizations have been helping make Ontario workplaces safer for more than 100 years. A leading provider of health and safety training and consulting, businesses call upon WSN for expert advice and information. For more information, visit workplacesafetynorth.ca.