# Ammonia Hazards

Ammonia is a corrosive substance, especially dangerous when coming contact with human skin, eyes, or entering the lungs. If ammonia contacts the skin it can cause freezing and 3<sup>rd</sup> degree burns. Ammonia is considered to be immediately dangerous to life or health (IDLH) at 300 ppm. Exposures greater than 2,500 ppm can induce chemical pneumonitis, burns, dyspnea, edema, and progressive cyanosis, or even death. Ammonia is a flammable substance, and when mixed with lubricating oils the flammability increases. Ammonia is a substance you have to be extremely careful with because it can be harmful in various ways.

### **Signs of Exposure**

- Violent Coughing
- Tearing
- Impaired Vision
- Painful Breathing

• Corrosion of Skin

- Irritation of the eyes
- Suffocation

Safe

### How to Avoid Hazardous Exposure

- Report all spills, leaks, or failures of safety equipment
- Never work alone when dealing with this substance
- Wear NIOSH approved respirators in concentrations up to 250 ppm, preferable full-face for eye protection
  - For up to 300 ppm wear self-contained breathing apparatus
  - Wear chemical safety goggles, and face shields may be necessary at times
  - Wear chemical protective clothing
  - If possible use local exhaust ventilation and enclosure

#### **Emergency Situations**

## BASIC Preventative Maintenance

- Eye Exposure- Flush eyes with water for at least 15 mins
- Skin Exposure- Immediately wash hands with soap and water
- Inhalation Exposure- Victim should be moved to fresh air immediately, if victim is not breathing wash their face to remove any contaminants then preform CPR

