



RTO BULLETIN

May 4, 2010

CAR WASH ALERT: ***“Excessive inhalation of mist or spray may cause damage to upper respiratory tract and lung tissue.”***

That’s straight from the manufacturer’s Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) for the chemical used in the subway car washes. Exposure can also result in eye and skin irritation.

The TA is required to provide Personal Protective Equipment to every T/O taking a train through the wash. Specifically, the MSDS states that, *“Safety goggles and/or face shield must be worn.”* It also calls for *“neoprene gloves and protective clothing”* to protect your skin.

If the Y/D does not provide this equipment, **DON’T GO THROUGH THE WASH!**

If the Y/D says the wash operator won’t spray the first or last car, **DON’T GO THROUGH THE WASH!** Even if the wash operator doesn’t make a mistake, you’ll still

be exposed to the mist from the spray and to being dripped on when you walk through the train.

DO NOT GO THROUGH THE WASH without the proper protective equipment. It’s a simple step that can help protect your long-term health.

If you have any questions, or to report a Y/D who is ordering T/Os through the wash without proper PPE, call:

- RTO Vice President Kevin Harrington: 646-295-8055
- T/O Division Chair Steve Downs: 646-996-7768
- Nights and weekends, call the TWU Safety Hotline: 888-898-6608

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