

DIESEL ENGINE EXHAUST EMISSIONS.

Engagement ideas

01 Encourage employees to tell you if:

- They have a cough that won't go away or suffer from irritated eyes when working near diesel plant or vehicles.
- Walls or surfaces in the workspace are covered in soot.
- There is a visible haze in the workplace.
- There is blue or black smoke coming from diesel exhaust emissions.

These are all signs that could mean that diesel exhaust emissions exposure is too high. Please use the control methods suggested on page two of the fact sheet to reduce exposure. If you are still concerned please contact your local safework.

02 If your employees are at risk from diesel engine exhaust emissions and you're struggling to get them to take the issue seriously, try one of these demonstrations, perhaps during a training session or toolbox talk:

- Use a can of air freshener or deodorant and spray a small amount at the front of the room and ask people at the back to tell you when they can smell it - they'll be able to tell you what the smell is very quickly. Do a quick rule of thumb calculation of how many millilitres you squirted and the volume of the room to demonstrate how many parts per million they have now all been exposed to, showing that a tiny amount of a substance can quickly affect everyone in the space (e.g. in a 5mx5mx3m room you are exposed to 1.6ppm every "regular" spray).
- Ask people to quickly walk around 100 metres, followed by climbing a flight of stairs. Straight after, get them to breathe through a straw, while pinching their noses. Explain that this situation is what it's like to breathe with severe lung damage, including that caused by diesel engine exhaust emissions.

**Ensure there are no asthmatics in the group.*

KNOW THE EXPOSURE, USE THE CONTROLS, REDUCE YOUR RISK

To learn about the control measures you can use at your workplace to reduce your risk please visit cancer.org.au/go/workcancer.

For information and support
Call us on 13 11 20

