

# SOLVENT & SOLVENT RAGS

(Acetone, Denatured Alcohol, MEK, MPK, Toluene, Xylene, Mineral Spirit, Paint Thinner)

## GENERAL INFORMATION

Solvents on USAG-HI installations are used for different maintenance operations. The solvent used in the parts washers for ground vehicle maintenance is recycled through a DPW contract. Other solvents used in painting and aviation maintenance operations include harmful chemicals such as Paint thinner, Acetone, Denatured Alcohol, MEK, MPK Toluene, Xylene and Mineral Spirit. **Do not use any solvent** unless authorized by DPW Environmental Division Authorized Use List (AUL) Database Manager. Approved solvents must be authorized by a technical manual and listed on the AUL. For authorization contact the DPW Environmental Division AUL Database Manager.

## POTENTIAL HAZARDS

Excess or used solvents and rags contaminated with solvents may be hazardous to human health and the environment. Improper management of excess/used solvents and solvent rags may result in costly fines by the Hawaii Department of Health and/or the EPA.

## WASTE CHARACTERIZATION

Excess/used solvents and used solvent rags may be HAZARDOUS WASTE. Consult the DPW Environmental Division Compliance Inspections Program for assistance.

## HANDLING AND DISPOSAL PROCEDURES

**Step 1:** Ensure that the use of any solvent has been approved by the DPW Environmental Division AUL Database Manager and is listed on the unit AUL.

**Step 2:** Never discard excess or used solvent in the sanitary sewer, storm or floor drains. Contact the DPW Environmental Division Compliance Inspections Program for proper management of excess or used solvents.



**Step 3:** Store all usable solvent contaminated rags in a closable metal container.

**Step 4:** Mark the used solvent rag container with the words “USED (name of solvent) RAGS”.

**Step 5:** The rags should be reused to the fullest extent possible. When the rags are no longer usable, place rags in an open head drum in the HWSSP labeled “HAZARDOUS WASTE (name of solvent) RAGS” and manage IAW the IHWMP (see HWSSP Fact Sheet).

**Step 6:** Contact the DPW TAP to pick up the rags for disposal.