



## **Your First-Aid Kit – Where is it?**



**Greater Houston  
Chapter**

*Does your jobsite have a first-aid kit available? If so, do you know where it is? Is it in clear view of all members of the crew? Is it inside the jobsite trailer, maybe in one of the foreman's file cabinets?*

**While it's O.K.** to have it in the jobsite trailer, it's not O.K. to have it stored in a file cabinet? WHY? Because you need the first-aid kit to be in clear view of all workers. If it's hidden away somewhere, then OSHA might cite your company for not having it where all employees can immediately have access to it if an emergency occurs.

**Is your jobsite first-aid kit fully stocked?** Is it half empty? Do some of the items have grease or other solvents on them? Are the sterile packages torn open? If any of these conditions exist, then you might be in trouble with OSHA. They (OSHA) want the first-aid kit to be in top flight condition, in the event you need to use the items to treat an injured victim.

**What are some of the things you should look for** to determine if your jobsite kit meets OSHA approval? Here are some tips:

- Is the kit available to all workers?
- Is it clean/sterile?
- Is the first-aid container fully stocked?
- Does your company inventory "refill kits?"
- Is there an "eye-wash" kit in the first-aid container?
- Are there 4" x 4" sterile pads in the kit (to use along with "direct pressure" to stop bleeding)?
- Do you have a first-aid kit in each company owned vehicle?
- Does your kit have CPR items?
- Do your workers know the exact location of the first-aid kit on the jobsite?
- Are the NAMES of the company's first-aid givers scotch-taped on the top of the first-aid container?

**O.K., you've answered** the first seven questions, let's look at an inventory list of a typical FIRST-AID KIT:

- Band-aids (small/medium/large)
- Rolls of gauze (2" width) four
- Rolls of gauze (3" width) four
- Hypo-allergenic first-aid tape (in dispenser)
- Antiseptic wipes (twenty)
- Instant COLD PACK (large)
- Instant HEAT PACK (large)
- Latex gloves (six pairs)
- Zip-loc bags (large) two
- Non-stick pads (small/medium/large)
- Oval eye pads (four)
- Triangular bandage (to secure arm/shoulder injury)
- Elastic bandages (2" width) two rolls
- Elastic bandages (4" width) two rolls
- Scissors
- Tweezers
- Face mask – CPR (four)
- Eye-wash bottles (8 oz. Bottles) two

- Sterile gauze pads (4") twenty
- CPR Guide (tips)
- First-Aid Guide (tips)

FOOTNOTE: Each company has guidelines regarding dispensing of aspirin/tylenol tablets. Consult your foreman first.

Well, if we've answered all of the above listed questions with a resounding YES, then we're ready to use our jobsite FIRST-AID KIT when minor injuries occur.

If a "major" injury occurs, promptly call 9-1-1 and give the dispatcher as many details as you can.

*Never hide the jobsite First-Aid Kit. Keep it where everybody can immediately access it when injuries occur. Remember, too, to wear latex gloves when treating workers who have injuries that produce "bleeding."*