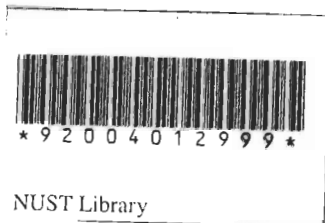
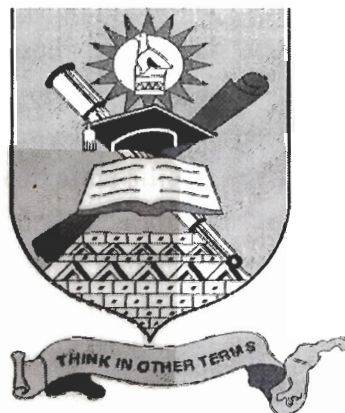


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FACULTY OF APPLIED SCIENCES

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE AND HEALTH

An Investigation of Liquid Raw Material Storage and Handling at Bulk Oil Storage (BOS) tank farm: Unilever Zimbabwe

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August 2009

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ABSTRACT

Proper storage and handling of materials is an important factor in any industry and generally liquid raw materials are stored in specialised tanks which vary depending on the properties of the raw material. A study was conducted on the storage and handling of liquid raw materials at the BOS tank farm at Unilever Zimbabwe in Harare, where bulk oil and chemicals such as caustic soda, sulphonic acid and sodium alkaline silicate are stored. Many a time, caustic and oil deposits can be observed on the ground area around the BOS tank farm. This not only negatively impact on the environment, but on humans as well. Although the operators at the BOS tank farm are generally knowledgeable in the loss of resources at the tank farm. These include poor condition of equipment such as suction hoses and lights. There is also need to ensure adequate PPE to employees at all times as well as for periodic reviews of risk/ aspect and impact assessments for the safety of employees and also to avoid unnecessary costs to the organisation. Continuous improvement on storage and handling of materials in organisations can only be achieved through total commitment of the management and the employees at large.