



MSHA's Occupational Illness and Injury  
Prevention Program  
Miner's Tip

**Your  
Health  
Comes  
First!**

**Working with Electrical  
Cleaning Solvents**

Category: **All Mines**  
Mine Type: **Health**

New electrical cleaning solvents have entered the workplace, replacing chloroflurosolvents. One new solvent is 1-bromopropane (1-BP), also known as n-propyl bromide.

This new solvent may present potential health hazards and can enter the body through inhalation and skin contact. 1-BP can irritate the eyes, nose, throat, and respiratory tract and can damage the nervous system. In animal studies, 1-BP has damaged the reproductive system of both male and female animals.

The (2009) American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists recommends that a time-weighted average exposure not exceed 10 parts per million for an 8-hour day. This information can be found on the Material Safety Data Sheet.



Minimize your exposure to 1-BP by practicing these safe work procedures:

1. Never pour on machinery or a hot component.
2. Use in a well-ventilated area.
3. Remain upwind from the solvent and have others do likewise.
4. Provide local exhaust ventilation if working inside or in a low area.
5. Use a rag or cloth wetted with the solvent to clean the surface.
6. Keep the container capped when not in use.
7. Only use enough solvent to do the job.
8. Wear an organic vapor respirator.
9. Wear nitrile rubber or viton gloves.
10. Use eyewear to protect from splashes.
11. Flammable liquid keep away from flames.

**Remember - Your Health Comes First!**