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GlaxoSmithKline
Worthing,
West Sussex.
BN14 8QH

GlaxoSmithKline

June 12, 2009

Anne Finke,
Prevor Ltd.

Dear Anne:

Rationale for the use of Diphoterine at GSK Worthing

Diphoterine has been on the site since early 2000. The reason for introducing it was following an incident where an engineer was carrying out maintenance on the processing plant and, despite wearing safety glasses, a flake of dried caustic fell off an over head pipe and entered his eye. Traditional water washing was carried out and the engineer was transferred to hospital. Fortunately he did not lose his sight but the injury was sufficient to warrant an improved protocol for such a situation.

We have been fortunate not to have had any further serious injuries from chemical burns at Worthing however we have had cause to use Diphoterine for some minor incidents. A recent example of this is where a technician in a laboratory was using a Pasteur pipette with 70% nitric acid and dripped some onto the sleeve of her lab coat. She didn't notice until she felt the acid on her arm. With the help of a colleague he quickly removed the coat and he sprayed her arm with a 200ml DAP spray. I saw her arm an hour or two later and there was barely a mark on it. She required no medical treatment, other than being checked by a first aider and was able to continue as before.

Regards,

Jan Keith
Environmental Health and Safety Adviser

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