



## Policy

Saskatoon & Area - Occupational Health & Safety

**Number:** 53-010

**Title:** Physical Hazard:

Thermal Conditions: Indoor/Outdoor Heat

**Saskatchewan Employment Act:**

**OH&S Regulation:** 6-7

**Date:** January 1, 2017

**Date Revised/Reaffirmed:** December 30, 2021

Any PRINTED version of this document is only accurate up to the date of printing. Saskatchewan Health Authority (SHA), Occupational Health & Safety Services (OHS) cannot guarantee the currency or accuracy of any printed policy. Always refer to the Occupational Health & Safety internal website for the most current versions of documents in effect. This policy complies with legislation (minimum standards) at the time of this writing and/or revision. SHA OHS accepts no responsibility for use of this material by any person or organization not associated with SHA. No part of this document may be reproduced in any form for publication without permission of SHA OHS Services.

### Purpose

To ensure the health and safety of workers by reducing the risk of heat stress

### Preamble

The Humidex Based Heat Response Plan is a way of protecting workers from heat stress. Traditional Wet Bulb Globe thermometers were used to estimate heat strain. The Humidex plan uses a thermal hygrometer to measure temperature and relative humidity.

### Roles and Responsibilities

Employer must ensure:

- Indoor thermal conditions are reasonable for the work performed
- Effective protection for all workers is provided
- A local exhaust is used to remove heat created from hot work processes

Manager/Supervisor must ensure:

- That roles and responsibilities of all workers are being met, as well as applicable legislation and/or standards
- Safe work procedures are written and followed
- That when the environment is likely to be a health and safety concern, a monitor is used that measures temperature and humidity with a thermal hygrometer
- Workers are trained to recognize early signs and symptoms of heat stress and what to do to prevent them
- A plan is in place when required for workers to alter their pace of work, increase rest breaks and fluid intake when symptoms present. Preventative measure may include job rotations
- Suitable clothing is provided when required

Worker must ensure:

- They are trained in and follow the safe work procedures
- They are trained in and use any PPE required (selection, use, care and handling)
- They report to their supervisor and the Safety Alert System/Incident Report Line for any heat stress related symptoms

**Materials**

- Appropriate PPE if required

**Non-Compliance/Breach:**

Non-compliance with this policy will result in a review of the incident. A review for non-compliance may result in disciplinary action, up to and including termination of employment or privileges; fines and /or prosecution of individuals under the Saskatchewan Employment Act and OHS Regulations.

## Review Dates:

January 1, 2017

May 28, 2018

December 30, 2021