Persulfates: Spill Cleanup

Persulfate spills are a serious matter. If cleaned up improperly, a persulfate spill can result in a dangerous decomposition event. Make certain you and your co-workers know what to do if a spill occurs:

**Contain the Spill:**
Berms should be available throughout the work area to quickly contain chemical spills. This action can significantly reduce the risk of the spill spreading and endangering others.

**Dilute the Spill:**
Large amounts of water should be added to the spill immediately. A 10 to 1 ratio of water to persulfate product must be applied to stop decomposition.

**Neutralization:**
Slowly adding a mild alkali (bicarbonate) will neutralize persulfate chemicals. Make sure to add the mild alkali slowly, until the spill stops fizzing.

**Large Persulfate Spills:**
Any large persulfate spill should be considered and treated as solid hazardous waste. In the case of a decomposition event, alert your supervisor and call for emergency help, being sure to alert emergency responders that persulfate products are involved.

Remember: carbon dioxide (CO2) or other gas-filled extinguishers will have NO effect on decomposing persulfate.

**Disposal:**
Never return spilled material back to its original container. Cross contamination can result in decomposition. Always comply with all local, state and federal regulations when disposing of persulfates.

Remember: you can avoid a potential spill by storing and handling the product with care and respect.

Refer to Safety Data Sheet for the relevant persulfate product for further information.