

## About Univar Solutions

The Univar Widnes site opened in October 1979 and employs 70 people. It is located on the Hale Road Industrial Estate, an area of mixed industrial and warehousing in Ditton, Widnes in the borough of Halton.

The site has five main warehouses that are used for the storage of a range of both hazardous and non-hazardous packaged goods. External to the warehousing there are tank farms with bunded areas and there are other secure areas for the storage of specific materials.

Univar Limited has an extensive Responsible Care management system to ensure that Safety, Health and the Environment are at the forefront of the business ethos. Qualified laboratory staff test all incoming tanker deliveries to meet the requirements of the Univar's ISO 9001 Quality System.

Univar receives deliveries from all over the world and operates a distribution fleet with daily deliveries of up to 200 tonnes. The customer base is spread across many sectors including automotive industries, engineering, cleaning and detergents, agrochemicals, chemical manufacturing and personal care products.

The site is continually upgraded and has safety systems that protect against major incidents.

## Further information

**The information in this leaflet is important – please keep or display it in a safe place and ensure that any new residents or employees at your address are aware of its contents.**

## Sources of advice and information

If you need further copies or would like to discuss anything contained in this leaflet in more detail, then please contact Paul Landers, Site Manager.

### Siren testing

We have agreed with the authorities and regulators that our warning siren will be tested regularly. This is so that all our neighbours are familiar with the sound of the siren.

**Tests take place at 12:00 (midday) on the first Friday of each month.**

**For information on other aspects of COMAH Regulations, emergency planning, safety and environmental issues, you may wish to contact:**

**Halton Borough Council**  
Risk & Emergency Planning Division  
Municipal Building  
Kingsway, Widnes  
Cheshire WA8 7QF  
Tel: 0151 511 7918

[www3.halton.gov.uk](http://www3.halton.gov.uk)

**Environment Agency North West**  
Telephone: 08708 506506 (Mon-Fri 8am-6pm) [www.gov.uk/environment-agency](http://www.gov.uk/environment-agency)

**Health and Safety Executive**

**Hazardous Installations Division 2.2 Redgrave**  
Court, Merton Road, Bootle,  
L20 7HS

Telephone: 0300 003 1747  
[www.hse.gov.uk/comah](http://www.hse.gov.uk/comah)

### Univar Solutions

Pickerings Road, Halebank Industrial Estate

Ditton, Widnes, Cheshire WA8 8XW

Telephone: 0151 422 6211  
[www.univarsolutions.com](http://www.univarsolutions.com)

# Safety Information for our neighbours

**Univar Solutions**, Pickerings Road, Halebank Industrial Estate

Ditton, Widnes, Cheshire WA8 8XW

**Telephone:** 0151 422 6211

**Contact:** **Paul Landers**

This site receives and stores solvents and chemicals and then distributes these across the United Kingdom and Ireland.

This leaflet contains essential safety information and tells you what to do in the unlikely event of a major incident.

**The information in this leaflet is important and relevant to businesses and to householders alike. Please keep or display it in a safe place and ensure that all residents, any new occupants or new employees at your address are aware of its contents.**

The Control of Major Accident Hazards (COMAH) Regulations apply to the site. The regulations place certain requirements and obligations on COMAH site operators.

Under the regulations, we are required to:

- Prepare and maintain a **SAFETY REPORT**. This report is assessed by HSE and the Environment Agency - the COMAH Competent Authority regulators. It contains the details of how we ensure that we operate safely.
- Formulate and test **EMERGENCY PLANS** in collaboration with the Local Authority, the COMAH regulators and the emergency services. These deal with the effects of a major incident on the site. A site-specific external emergency plan is prepared and tested by Halton Borough Council
- Provide essential **SAFETY INFORMATION** for our neighbours. Businesses, householders, and facilities neighbouring our site can find relevant advice and information in this leaflet.

### What should you do in an emergency?

**Warning of danger** – Univar Solutions operates a warning siren that can be heard off site. In the event of a major incident, our neighbours will be alerted using this siren which will sound with intermittent blasts for as long as recommended by the attending the Fire & Rescue Services.

The following information is based on advice from the Emergency Planning Unit. If alerted by the siren or the Police, or you become aware that an incident has occurred, a useful phrase to remember is:



**Go in and stay in** - Go to the nearest building. Be prepared to let others shelter. Stay in a room, preferably facing away from the incident scene. Shut all doors and windows and turn off any fans, ventilation and air conditioning systems. Do not venture out to find people or to collect children from local schools.

**Tune in** – Listen to local radio such as BBC Radio Merseyside - 95.8 FM and DAB/online News bulletins will be broadcast to give you further advice and to tell you when the incident is over. Do not telephone Univar Solutions or the emergency services (unless you have an emergency). Telephone lines will need to be kept clear for the emergency response.

**Follow advice from the emergency services** - The Police will take a lead role in a major incident, as will the Fire & Rescue Services. Do not leave the area or go to pick other people up. This may cause traffic congestion and prevent emergency vehicles reaching the site. Follow the instructions given by the emergency services at the time.

**All clear** – when any danger has passed, the siren will sound the all clear (a single long tone) and there may be local radio all clear announcements.

### What hazardous materials do we handle?

The site handles chemical solids, liquid chemicals and solvents, which we store and package at the site for distribution around the UK. Some classed as oxidising, toxic, highly flammable or hazardous to the aquatic environment. We have detailed planning consents agreed with the Local Authority that limit the quantities of hazardous substances we can store.

### How could these materials affect people and the environment?

Under the COMAH regulations, we must identify the potential scenarios that could lead to a major incident. The main risks that we manage relate to spillage of environmentally hazardous flammable liquids from tanks and drums, with the potential for ignition leading to fires. Hazards are associated with storage, filling, transport operations, and relates to uncontrolled release or fire of solvent chemicals or building fires. The scenarios we have identified in our emergency plans include:

- Fire involving products in warehouses or outside.
- Failure of pipework or valves during discharging into bulk storage tanks.
- Failure of a storage tank with release of substances hazardous to the aquatic environment.

We do not anticipate any delayed or long-term adverse health effects to people outside our site in the unlikely event that one of these scenarios should occur.

### What do we do to prevent incidents?

Univar Solutions is Serious about Safety and makes health, safety and protecting the environment top priorities. Univar Solutions has made, and continues to make, substantial investments in site safety systems designed to prevent incidents. Our employees are competent in the work they undertake, our plant and equipment incorporate the latest relevant technology and our approved suppliers, contractors and hauliers meet the highest standards of training and safety awareness. We do everything we can to avoid incidents while also having plans in place for on-site and off-site responses to a COMAH emergency.