





Safety, Health and Environment (SHE) Flash



Flash Date:	06/01/23	Ref:	FY23 001 -De-icer In Eye	Alert Author:	Dylan Jones
Audience:	All Vehicle Drivers				

<p>What happened?</p> <p>A post-person saw some spilt fluid in the back of their vehicle. They leaned over to clean the fluid with a cloth. Whilst doing this they flicked some of the fluid into their eye.</p> <p>At this point their eye stung, it emerged the fluid was de-icer. The de-icer had been left loose in the back of the van and had leaked.</p>	<p>Visuals:</p>  
<p>Impact/injury</p> <p>The eye became very bloodshot as the capillaries expanded in size. The post-person was taken to hospital. Fortunately, the capillaries in the eyes did not expand enough to penetrate the cornea, which could have led to permanent loss of vision.</p>	

Learning points from the incident

Scrapers are the best product to clear windscreens of ice. De-icer should be stored onsite in a cool and contained cupboard/area, taken to clear a windscreen when required, then returned to the storage area before the vehicle leaves the unit.

Do not store de-icer inside vehicles. As well as having the potential to leak, de-icer is stored in a compressed can and can be flammable. In the event of a vehicle fire it can act as a projectile.

Actions to avoid similar incidents

1.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do not store de-icer inside vehicles. Scrapers can be stored inside vehicles.
2.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Take care when cleaning unknown liquids, eyes are very sensitive. Wear gloves and other protective equipment where required, if in doubt request the assistance of a cleaner or speak to your manager.



Intended Audience: All managers and frontline employees

**Managers'
Brief**

Your signature below confirms you understand this safety briefing.

Name (Print)	Personnel No.	Signature	Date
Forename, Surname			