



# NO RISK!

**Nitto Denko now lead free.**

Introducing the world's first lead free plastic electrical and duct tape. Which means it's safer to use and more environmentally friendly than any other tape available. It also retains all the qualities Nitto tape is famous for - excellent workability, superior cold and heat resistance and strong adhesion properties.

But what else would you expect from the world's leading tape manufacturer?



 **NITTO DENKO**  
The Better Option

# Lead and You – Risky Business

## What Is Lead?

Lead is a naturally occurring heavy metal, which due to its low cost and usefulness is found in an enormous variety of products and places throughout our environment.

Lead can easily enter the system, especially those of children, and cause serious health problems. In high enough concentrations, lead can cause failure in virtually every one of the body's systems, and in the most extreme cases, even death.

## How are we Exposed?

Lead can enter our bodies via the lungs (fumes and dust), or the gut (dust, soil, leaded products, food, water, etc). An estimated 500,000m<sup>2</sup> of disposed PVC tape enters Australian landfill every year. Compounded by acid rain, this breaks down and lead seeps into the water table, contaminating soil and drinking water.

## Who is at Risk?

Everyone is at risk from exposure to lead. However, workers handling lead products, young children, pregnant women and unborn babies face the greatest threat.

Workers in Industries that involve regular handling of products containing lead, are similarly at risk from higher levels of exposure and resulting health problems.

Constant contact by children with surfaces containing dust or dirt contaminated with

lead, coupled with the natural hand-to-mouth action, make children vulnerable to higher rates of lead ingestion.

Compounding this, small children absorb ingested lead at a rate up to 5 times that of adults. Children's developing systems such as the brain and nervous system are far more vulnerable than those of fully developed adults.

## What are the Effects?

Once in the body, lead disrupts enzyme systems, leaving virtually every function vulnerable. Lead can cause numerous conditions, including:

### Adults:

- Decreased fertility
- Damage to major organs, especially brain, kidneys, central nervous system, abdominal system, etc.
- High blood pressure
- Fits, or in extreme cases, death.

### Pregnant Women and Foetuses:

- Pre-term delivery
- Lower birth weights
- Miscarriage and stillbirth
- Impaired mental development

### Children:

- Lower IQ and mental development
- Learning disabilities/attention disorders
- Reduced motor skills
- Aggression and behavioural disorders

Nitto Denko is constantly striving to create safe and environmentally friendly products that continue to perform to the highest standards. It's just another way that Nitto Denko Corporation is Creating New Value for industries across Australia and around the globe.

