

Hazard Communication – Safety Data Sheet Format Changes

EHS QuickNOTES...

OSHA's new Hazard Communication Standard requires chemical manufacturers and suppliers to provide Safety Data Sheets (formerly known as Material Safety Data Sheets or MSDSs) to communicate the hazards of chemical products. As of June 1, 2015, the hazard information found in Safety Data Sheets must be placed in the following sixteen sections and each section must contain the following content:

Section 1, Identification - identifies the chemical for which the safety data sheet is written as well as the recommended uses for the chemical. It also provides the contact information of the manufacturer or distributor. Remember, the name on the label will match the name on the safety data sheet.

Section 2, Hazard(s) identification provides a summary of the hazards associated with the chemical and lists precautionary statements that - if followed - , will assist in avoiding those hazards. The information in this section is exactly the same as the information placed on the label which we discussed previously.

Section 3, Composition/information on ingredients identifies the substance, or ingredients if a mixture, contained in the product. If a chemical ingredient is not listed because a trade secret is claimed, it will be noted.

Section 4, First-aid measures includes Describes the initial care that should be given by untrained responders to an individual who has been exposed to the chemical.

Section 5, Fire-fighting measures lists suitable extinguishing techniques and equipment as well as specific hazards that might develop from the chemical during a fire.

Section 6, Accidental release measures lists emergency procedures including recommendations on appropriate response to spills, leaks, or other releases.

Section 7, Handling and storage lists precautions for safe handling and storage, including incompatibilities.

Section 8, Exposure controls/personal protection lists the exposure limits for the chemical, appropriate engineering controls and recommendations for personal protective equipment.

Section 9, Physical and chemical properties lists the physical and chemical properties associated with the chemical including its appearance and physical state, odor, pH, melting or boiling point, flash point, evaporation rate and upper and lower flammability limits.

Section 10, Stability and reactivity lists chemical stability information and possible hazardous reactions.

Section 11, Toxicological information lists health effects information including the likely routes of exposure, a description of the immediate and long-term effects of exposure, the symptoms of exposure and numerical measures of acute toxicity. It will also note if the substance has been identified as a known or potential carcinogen or is a reproductive toxin.

Sections unrelated to health and safety:

Section 12, Ecological information

Section 13, Disposal consideration

Section 14, Transport information

Section 15, Regulatory information

Section 16, Other information, includes the date of preparation or last revision.

Hazard Communication - Chemical Container Label Changes

EHS QuickNOTES...

Changes will be made to chemical labels no later than June 1, 2015

The following information must now be placed on labels of hazardous chemicals:

- **The Name, Address and Telephone Number** of the chemical manufacturer or importer.
- **A Product Identifier** - the chemical name, code number or batch number. The same product identifier must be both on the label and in section 1 of the Safety Data Sheet. This makes it easy to find the right sheet.
- **Signal Words** which indicate the relative level of severity of the hazard and alert the reader to a potential hazard on the label. There are only two words used as signal words, "Danger" and "Warning." Danger is used for the more severe hazards and Warning is used for the less severe hazards.
- **Hazard Statements** which describe the nature of the hazard(s) of a chemical.
- **Precautionary Statements** which describe how to safely handle, store and dispose of the chemical as well as how to respond to accidental spillage or exposures.

Labels will also contain pictograms which describe the chemical's hazardous characteristics with an image. The following nine pictograms are used:

Health Hazard  • Carcinogen • Mutagenicity • Reproductive Toxicity • Respiratory Sensitizer • Target Organ Toxicity • Aspiration Toxicity	Flame  • Flammables • Pyrophorics • Self-Heating • Emits Flammable Gas • Self-Reactives • Organic Peroxides	Exclamation Mark  • Irritant (skin and eye) • Skin Sensitizer • Acute Toxicity (harmful) • Narcotic Effects • Respiratory Tract Irritant • Hazardous to Ozone Layer (Non-Mandatory)
Gas Cylinder  • Gases Under Pressure	Corrosion  • Skin Corrosion/ Burns • Eye Damage • Corrosive to Metals	Exploding Bomb  • Explosives • Self-Reactives • Organic Peroxides
Flame Over Circle  • Oxidizers	Environment (Non-Mandatory)  • Aquatic Toxicity	Skull and Crossbones  • Acute Toxicity (fatal or toxic)