

Safety Data Sheet Content

EHS QuickNOTES...

OSHA 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.