



Environmental Management Consulting, Inc.

Hazard Communication/ Employee Right-To-Know

Employer is required to inform employees about hazardous chemicals in their workplace

Hazardous chemicals

- Any chemical that exhibits any hazardous properties to human health or the environment
- These can be broken down into:
 - Health Hazards
 - Carcinogens (Benzene)
 - Corrosives (Acids, Bases)
 - Toxics (Mercury)
 - Irritants (Bleach)
 - Sensitizers (New carpet odor)
 - Physical Hazards
 - Flammables/Combustibles (Gasoline)
 - Compressed gases (Acetylene)
 - Flammable solids (Sodium)
 - Water reactives (Potassium)
 - Oxidizers (Oxygen)

Routes Of Entry

- Inhalation:
 - Mists, fumes, vapors, fibers, smoke, dust.
- Skin Absorption:
 - Chemicals like mercury, gasoline solvent, thinners
- Ingestion:
 - Ingest through chemicals on food or drink that you have contacted
 - Wash hands and never keep food or drinks in areas with chemicals

Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS)

- Are required for all chemicals
- Must be readily available to access in case of emergency
- Must be kept by employer for 30 years after the product is last used
- All MSDS's must contain the same information but are not required to be in the same format/order (recommended format/order by ANSI & ISO)
- Know the location of and how to obtain an MSDS's in case of emergency situations

Sections of a MSDS (ANSI/ISO recommended)

Section 1: Product and Company Identification

Section 2: Composition of and Information on Ingredients

Section 3: Hazards Identification

Section 4: First Aid Measures

Section 5: Fire Fighting Measures

Section 6: Accidental Release Measures

Section 7: Handling and Storage

Section 8: Exposure Controls and Personal Protection

Section 9: Physical and Chemical Properties

Section 10: Stability and Reactivity

Section 11: Toxicological Info.

Section 12: Ecological Information

Section 13: Disposal Consideration

Section 14: Transport Information

Section 15: Regulatory Info.

Section 16: Other Information

Material Labeling

All chemical containers must have:

- Product or material name
- Hazards of product or material
- Manufacturer (if possible)

Labeling Systems

- National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) - most common and recognized:
 - Blue = Health
 - Red = Fire
 - Yellow = Reactivity
 - White = Specific Hazard
- Hazardous Material Identification System (HMIS):
 - Blue = Health
 - Red = Fire
 - Yellow = Reactivity
 - White = PPE (A-K, X)
- Same Numbering System
 - 0 = No Hazard
 - 1 = Minimal Hazard
 - 2 = Medium Hazard
 - 3 = High Hazard
 - 4 = Extreme Hazard

DCOMM Violations

- What is an MSDS?
- Where are your MSDS's?
- Can you read an MSDS?
- Chemicals properly labeled?
- Chemicals properly stored?

Do and Don't

- Do have MSDS for all chemicals/products
- Do know location of MSDS's
- Do understand how to read and interpret MSDS
- Do have proper labels on all chemical containers
- Do report any/all spills
- Don't bring in chemicals/products from home/store
- Don't transfer products into unlabeled containers
- Don't attempt spill cleanup of unknown products
- Don't store food or drinks with chemicals