

The MSDS

GENERAL DISCUSSION

Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDSs), if read and followed, are a powerful means of controlling chemical exposures.

MSDS are written by chemical manufacturers for the chemicals they produce or import. The purpose of the MSDS is to communicate information on the recommended safe use and handling procedures for that chemical.

Categories:

MSDS may look different, yet the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) requires that all MSDS must provide certain categories of information about the chemical substance or mixture:

- Identification (physical and chemical),
- Hazardous ingredients,
- Emergency and first aid procedures,
- Recommended control measures,
- Physical and health hazards,
- Safe handling precautions,
- Date of preparation/revision,
- Manufacturer's name, address and phone number.

Your employer is being required to assemble and provide unhindered access to a MSDS collection for all of the chemicals found in your work area. Know where this MSDS collection is located. Read and follow the MSDS recommendations.

Identification

What product/chemical is this MSDS for?

Hazardous Ingredients

- How much of this material can I safely be exposed to?
- How will I know if I am overexposed to this chemical?

Emergency and First Aid Procedures

- What first aid steps should I follow?
- What will happen to me if this chemical is swallowed?
- What will happen to me if this chemical gets onto my skin?
- What will happen to me if this chemical is breathed in?
- What will happen to me if this chemical gets into my eyes?

Recommended Control Measures

- What type of control measures should I use to protect myself?
- What should I do if there is a spill or leak?

Physical Hazards

- What are the physical hazards posed by this chemical?
- If it catches fire, what should I use to put it out?
- Are there conditions or materials that this chemical should not come into contact with?

Health Hazards

- What are the health hazards posed by this chemical?

Safe Handling Precautions

- What is the proper way to safely handle this chemical?

Manufacturer's Name, Address, and Phone Number

- Who made/imported this chemical?

GENERAL SAFETY REVIEW

This is a time to review all safety concerns, not just today's topic. Keep your notes on this page before, during and after the safety meeting.

Are you aware of any safety hazards from any other crews? Point out any hazards other crews are creating that this crew should know about. Tell the crew what you intend to do about those hazards.

Do we have any other safety business? Discuss any past issues or problems. Report any progress of investigations and action taken.

Have there been any accidents, near misses or complaints? Discuss any accidents, near misses, and complaints that have happened since the last safety meeting. Also recognize the safety contributions made by members of the crew.

Please remember, we want to hear from you about any health and safety issues that come up. If we don't know about problems, we can't take action to fix them.

ENDING THE MEETING

Circulate Sign-Off Form.

Assign one or more crew member(s) to help with next safety meeting.

Refer action items for follow-up.

Do you have any Safety Recommendations?

Do you have any Job Specific Topics you would like us to discuss?

Have you reviewed the M.S.D.S Sheet for this safety topic?

Yes___ No___ N/A___

Comments
