



Hazcom Standard Updates

OSHA has adopted the Global Harmonized System (GHS) of labeling and classification of chemicals. This system aims to provide a standardized approach to hazard communication and the required classification of different hazards associated with chemicals. Additionally, material safety data sheets are now referred to as safety data sheets (SDS). The new and improved SDSs are now formatted with 16 unique sections to convey information about each chemical.



SDS Required Sections

As of June 1, 2015, The Hazard Communication Standard will require SDSs to be in a uniform format including the headings below:

1. **Identification:** product identifier; manufacturer or distributor name, address, phone number; emergency phone number; recommended use and restrictions on use.
2. **Hazard identification:** include all hazards regarding the chemical and required label elements.
3. **Composition/ information on ingredients:** information on chemical ingredients and trade secret claims.
4. **First-aid measures:** important symptoms/effects, acute, or delayed and required treatment.
5. **Fire-fighting measures:** list suitable extinguishing techniques including required equipment and potential chemical hazards from fire.
6. **Accidental release measures:** emergency procedures; protective equipment; proper methods of containment and cleanup.
7. **Handling and storage:** precautions for safe handling and storage, including incompatibilities.
8. **Exposure controls/personal protection:** OSHA's permissible exposure limits (PEL); ACGIH threshold limit values (TLV); and any other exposure limit used or recommended by the manufacturer, importer or employer preparing the SDS where available as well as appropriate engineering controls and personal protective equipment.
9. **Physical and chemical properties:** chemical characteristics.
10. **Stability and reactivity:** chemical stability and possibility of hazardous reactions.
11. **Toxicological information:** routes of exposure; related symptoms, acute and chronic effects; measures of toxicity
12. **Ecological information**
13. **Disposal considerations**
14. **Transport information**
15. **Regulatory information**
16. **Other information-** includes the date of preparation or last revision.

NOTE: Sections 12-15 are regulated by agencies other than OSHA, as a result, OSHA will not be enforcing these sections.