



EHS Bulletin

November 2020

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Chemical Labeling

Chemical labeling is one of the most important components of the Hazardous Communication standard, 29 CFR 1910.1200. EHS requires every container at OSU that contains hazardous materials to be properly labeled. Proper labeling protects workers, prevents accidents and eliminates the creation of “unknowns”. Depending on the type of container, determines what labeling is needed.

Primary containers: These are the chemical containers that are acquired from a manufacturer or supplier. They must also be written in English; other languages may be also printed on the label. Manufacturer labels are to be kept on the container and not defaced. These labels must contain the following information as a minimum:

- the product identifier
- signal word
- hazard statement(s)
- pictogram
- precautionary statement(s)
- name, address and telephone number of the manufacturer or other responsible party

Secondary containers: These are containers that the laboratory has transferred products into while in use. Secondary containers include squeeze bottles, spray bottles, specimen bottles, bags, or other containers. The label needs to be legible, in English, and contain at least the following information:

- a product identifier such as the chemical name and
- a writing/markings that conveys the hazard such as:
 - pictogram
 - signal word
 - hazard statement or
 - combination of any of these
- for example, a label of ethanol could read: *Ethanol - Flammable*.

Cylinders: These need to be labeled with the appropriate DOT label that the manufacturer or supplier has affixed on the cylinder shoulder. If there is a problem with the cylinder label, immediately contact the manufacturer or supplier to correct.

Waste Containers: All waste containers need to be labeled with its contents and the words hazardous waste.

EHS does not require a specific label design. Labels can be purchased or printed from any source as long as it meets the above requirements. If necessary, EHS can provide a sample label and provide assistance in labeling.

For more information or questions about chemical labeling, please see the [Laboratory Safety Manual](#), email EHS at chemicalsafety@okstate.edu or call (405) 744-7241.

Slip, Trip and Fall

According to OSHA, slips, trips and falls are a main contributor to workplace accidents. Most of these accidents can be prevented with improved housekeeping, utilizing handrails, surface maintenance of walking surfaces and attention to personal surroundings. Daily inspections of working and walking areas for slips, trips and fall hazards could aid in the prevention of workplace injuries. All slips, trips and falls, with or without injury, should be reported to the EHS department:

- wet or greasy surfaces
- spills
- weather conditions (rain, humidity, ice, snow, etc.)
- loose rugs or mats

Trips happen when your foot hits an object causing you to lose your balance and eventually fall. Common causes of tripping are:

- obstructed view
- poor lighting
- debris and clutter
- uneven or wrinkled carpet, mats and rugs
- loosed or uncovered cables
- lower drawers and cabinets not being closed
- uneven walking surfaces

Good housekeeping is an important level of preventing falls due to slips and trips. Good housekeeping tips are:

- cleaning and marking all spills immediately
- mopping and sweeping debris from floors
- keeping walkways free of clutter and trip hazards
- securing mats, rugs and carpets that are loose
- always closing cabinet and desk drawers
- covering cables that cross walkways
- keeping working and walking areas well lit

For more information or questions about slip, trip and falls, please see [Walking-Working Surfaces](#), e-mail ohsp@okstate.edu or call (405) 744-7241.

Current Events

Bloodborne Pathogen Training

2nd Tuesday of the month, 9-10 am or 2-3 pm

EHS Conference Room, 003UHS

Required annually for members under OSHA's standard.

Registration: Email name to chemicalsafety@okstate.edu

Respiratory Protection

1st Tuesday of the month, 8:30-9:30 am

FM North Building, Room 101c

Required annually for members who wear respiratory protection.

Registration: Email name to ohsp@okstate.edu

Fire Safety w/ Hands-on Extinguisher Training

2nd Friday of the month, 9:00-10:00 am

EHS Conference Room, 003UHS

Come join us for fire safety education featuring the BullsEye laser training device.

Registration: Email name to ohsp@okstate.edu

Monthly Employee Training

3rd Thursday of the month, 9:30-11:30 am

EHS Conference Room, 003UHS

Topics: Hazcom; Fire Safety; Slips, Trips, and Falls; Office Safety; and Back Safety

Registration: Email name to ohsp@okstate.edu