

MATERIAL SAFETY DATA SHEETS & SECONDARY CONTAINERS



The purpose of a Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) is to inform the user of hazardous chemicals of the reasonably foreseeable physical and chemical hazards that may arise from the use of those chemicals.

Schools are required to have MSDSs present for every chemical they have on campus. The OSHA Hazard Communication Standard specifies what must be contained in the MSDSs.

Each MSDS shall contain at least the following information:

1. The identity (product name) used on the label, and chemical and common name(s) of the ingredients which have been determined to be health hazards, and which comprise 1% or greater of the composition, except carcinogens shall be listed if the concentrations are 0.1% or greater;
2. The chemical and common names of all ingredients which have been determined to present a physical hazard when present in the mixture;
3. Relevant physical and chemical characteristics of the hazardous chemical (such as vapor pressure, flash point);
4. Relevant physical hazards, including the potential for fire, explosion and reactivity;
5. Relevant health hazards, including signs and symptoms of exposure, and any medical conditions generally recognized as being aggravated by exposure to the chemical;
6. The primary route(s) of entry into the body;
7. The OSHA permissible exposure limit and ACGIH Threshold Limit Value. Additional applicable exposure limits may be listed;
8. Whether the hazardous chemical is listed in the National Toxicology Program (NTP) Annual Report on Carcinogens (latest edition) or has been found to be a potential carcinogen in the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) Monographs (latest editions), or by OSHA;
9. Precautions for safe handling and use, including appropriate hygienic practices, protective measures during repair and maintenance of contaminated equipment, and procedures for clean-up of spills and leaks;
10. Appropriate control measures, such as engineering controls, work practices, or personal protective equipment;
11. Emergency and first aid procedures;
12. The date of preparation of the Material Safety Data Sheet or the last change to it; and
13. The name, address and telephone number of the chemical manufacturer, importer, employer or other responsible party preparing or distributing the Material Safety Data Sheet, who can provide additional information on the hazardous chemical and appropriate emergency procedures, if necessary.

Secondary Containers

OSHA regulations require that all chemical containers be labeled with the identity of their contents and specific information about the hazards associated with the chemical. Secondary container labels should have the names(s) of the chemical in the container as well as hazard warnings and information specific to the contents.