

Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS)

A Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) is a document that contains information on the chemical make-up, use, storage, handling, emergency procedures, & potential health effects related to a hazardous material. The MSDS contains much more information about the material than the label on the container and are prepared/written by the manufacturer of the material.



The Purpose of MSDS is to inform you of the...

- ✓ Material's chemical make-up.
- ✓ Material's physical properties.
- ✓ Level of protective gear you will need to wear.
- ✓ First Aid treatment required if exposure to the material occurs.
- ✓ Preplanning needed for handling spills, fire, & day-to-day operations.
- ✓ Information on how to respond to accidents.
- ✓ Chemical Interactions

Hazard Communication Standard

MSDSs form the cornerstone of the Hazard Communication standard which requires employers to:

- ✓ Maintain an inventory of hazardous materials
- ✓ Provide employees with training on the potential hazards associated with the material
- ✓ Obtain & maintain MSDSs for each material onsite
- ✓ Establish proper methods & types of labels
- ✓ Inform contractors of the potential hazards that their employees could be exposed to.