

# Chemical Safety & The SDS

## Toolbox Talk

Many people work with and around chemicals every day that can be hazardous if not used properly. Cleaners, solvents, and detergents are examples of potentially hazardous chemicals when misused. By following safe practices when using chemicals, employees can protect themselves against chemical hazards:

- Always read the labels on products **before** using them
- All chemical products have a Safety Data Sheet (SDS, formerly known as a Material Safety Data Sheet or MSDS) listing the product's specific hazards; contact your supervisor to review the SDS and review the hazards associated with the chemical.
- Always wear personal protective equipment (PPE) such as gloves, goggles, masks, etc., when using chemicals; the SDS will tell you what equipment to wear.
- Follow label warnings and instructions.
- Do not mix incompatible chemicals!
- Learn emergency procedures in case you or others are exposed to chemical splash or fumes; these procedures can be found on the SDS.
- Keep containers closed when not in use.
- Store chemicals in their original containers in a cool, dry place.
- Only use chemicals in well-ventilated areas.
- Make sure chemical containers are labeled properly; if no label is available, ask your supervisor.
- Make sure chemicals are diluted properly
  - Do not exceed the dilution ratio for concentrated chemicals

Your supervisor can provide more information on chemical hazard recognition, use, storage, and protective equipment.

### The Safety Data Sheet

The SDS (Safety Data Sheet) contains all the important information you need to know about the chemical you're using, its health effects, and how to handle it safely.

Section 1, Identification: Includes product identifier; manufacturer or distributor contact information; emergency phone number; recommended use; and restrictions on use.

Section 2, Hazard(s) identification: Includes all hazards regarding the chemical and required label elements.

Section 3, Composition/information on ingredients: Includes information on chemical ingredients and trade secret claims.

Section 4, First-aid measures: Includes important symptoms and/or effects, including acute or delayed and required treatment.

Section 5, Fire-fighting measures: Lists suitable extinguishing techniques and equipment and chemical hazards from fire.

Section 6, Accidental release measures: Lists emergency procedures; protective equipment; proper methods of containment; and cleanup.

Section 7, Handling and storage: Lists precautions for safe handling and storage, including incompatibilities.

Section 8, Exposure controls/personal protection: Lists OSHA's Permissible Exposure Limits (PELs); Threshold Limit Values (TLVs); appropriate engineering controls; and personal protective equipment.

Section 9, Physical and chemical properties: Lists the chemical's characteristics.

Section 10, Stability and reactivity: Lists chemical stability and possibility of hazardous reactions.

Section 11, Toxicological information: Includes routes of exposure; related symptoms including acute and chronic effects; and numerical measures of toxicity.

Section 12, Ecological information

Section 13, Disposal considerations

Section 14, Transport information

Section 15, Regulatory information

Section 16, Other information: Includes the date of preparation or last revision.

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### Training Log

Company Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Trainer: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Training: \_\_\_\_\_

Employee Name (printed)	Employee Signature