

# Toolbox Talk - Safety Data Sheets

Toolbox Talks are intended to supplement training as safety and health discussions on the job site.

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## Introduction

The Hazard Communication Standard (HCS) (29 CFR 1910.1200(g)), revised in 2012, requires that the chemical manufacturer, distributor, or importer provide Safety Data Sheets (SDSs) for each hazard chemical to downstream users to communicate information on these hazards.

**Discussion Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Trainer:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Employee Participants:**

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## What to look for on the Safety Data Sheet (SDS):

- Section 1, Identification** Includes product identifier; manufacturer or distributor name, address, phone number, emergency phone number; recommended use; restrictions on use.
- Section 2, Hazard(s) identification** includes all hazards regarding the chemical; required label elements.
- Section 3, Composition/ information on ingredients** includes information on chemical ingredients; trade secret claims.
- Section 4, First-aid measures** includes important symptoms/effects, acute, delayed; required treatment.
- Section 5, Fire-fighting measures** lists suitable extinguishing techniques, equipment; 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; personal protective equipment (PPE).
- 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, Toxicology information** includes routes of exposure; related symptoms, acute and chronic effects; numerical measures of toxicity.
- Section 12, Ecological information** provides information to evaluate the environmental impact of the chemical(s) if it were released to the environment.
- Section 13, Disposal considerations** provide guidance on proper disposal practices, recycling or reclamation of the chemical(s) or its container, and safe handling practices.
- Section 14, Transport information** this section provides guidance on classification information for shipping and transporting of hazardous chemical(s) by road, air, rail or sea.
- Section 15, Regulatory information** this section identifies safety, health, and environmental regulations specific for the product that is not indicated anywhere else on the SDS.
- Section 16, Other information**, includes the date of preparation or last revision. Other useful information also may be included here.

*The material in this document is provided for informational purposes only and not as a comprehensive or exhaustive resource on this topic. The toolbox should not be used as substitution for training but as a supplement to formal training.*