



The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) issued the Hazard Communication Standard (HAZCOM), Title 29 Code of Federal Regulations 1910.1200 with this idea in mind: You have the right to know about chemicals and potential safety and health hazards you may face in the workplace as well as how to protect yourself from harm.



### Goals of Right-to-Know

- ♦ To help you reduce the risks involved in working with hazardous materials.
- ♦ To give vital information to associates about real and potential hazards of chemicals in the workplace.
- ♦ To reduce the incidence and cost of injury and illnesses that result from hazardous chemicals.

Some chemicals may be safety hazards or Physical Hazards and have the potential to cause fires, explosions and other serious accidents. Chemical exposure may cause or contribute to many serious Health Hazards such as:

- ♦ Heart ailments
- ♦ Central nervous system damage
- ♦ Kidney and lung damage
- ♦ Cancer
- ♦ Burns

**Acute** - are types of health problems that develop quickly after exposure (corrosive skin burns).

**Chronic** - health problems that develop over time, often after many exposures (cancer from inhaling a toxic chemical).

### Exposure to health hazards can occur in three ways:

- ♦ Skin or eye contact
- ♦ Inhaling, breathing in, (vapors, fumes)
- ♦ Swallowing (eating or smoking after handling chemicals without washing hands)

Because of the seriousness of these safety and health problems we will provide HAZCOM training to NEXCOM associates in New Hire Orientation as well as refresher training each February. The NEXCOM Hazard Communication Training consists of four sections:





- ◆ **Material Safety Data Sheets/AULs**
- ◆ **Warning labels on containers**
- ◆ **Training on proper handling, usage, storage of chemicals.**
- ◆ **Quiz**

Material Safety Data Sheets are readily available to associates in either binders located in the Loss Prevention/Safety department, backroom or via the Code S intranet site. These must be available to associates during all working hours and associates must have an opportunity to review them prior to working with hazardous materials.



### **SECTION 1 - Material Safety Data Sheets**

In order to ensure chemical safety in the workplace, information must be available in regards to the identity and hazards of the chemicals.

OSHA's Hazard Communication Standard (HAZCOM) requires the development and dissemination of such information:

- ◆ Chemical manufacturers and importers are required to evaluate the hazards of the chemicals they produce or import, and
- ◆ Prepare labels and material safety data sheets (MSDS's) to convey the hazard information to their customers.
- ◆ All employers with hazardous chemicals in their workplaces must have labels and MSDS's for their exposed workers, and train them to handle the chemicals appropriately.

It is the associate's responsibility to read the MSDS and ask questions if they do not understand.

**Please read: Don't take a Chance - Give MSDS a Glance and take the Quiz that follows. Located on the Code S intranet site under Safety, Training Topics.**

Authorized Use List (AUL) - This is a list of all the hazardous chemicals that are allowed to be used in the location, it must include the product name and manufacturer name as it appears on the label and MSDS. In addition, the AUL must include the work processes for which the chemical is allowed to be used.





## **SECTION 2 - Warning Labels**

The warning label provides important information about a chemical and is attached to the container itself. Although you can get more information from a MSDS, only a warning label can tell you exactly which chemical is inside that particular container.



- ◆ All hazardous chemicals in the workplace must be properly labeled.
- ◆ Make sure you always read the label on the chemical you are working with before you start your job.
- ◆ If you transfer a chemical from one container to another it is imperative that you add the correct label to the new container.
- ◆ Labels should list at least the chemical identity, appropriate hazard warnings, proper protective gear to wear, first aid and emergency response, and the name and address of the manufacturer.
- ◆ If a label is missing or too damaged to read contact your supervisor who can label it correctly. Never guess when it comes to your safety.
- ◆ If you have questions about a chemical, read the Material Safety Data Sheet - it provides valuable information.

## **SECTION 3 - Training**

Training on proper handling, usage, storage of chemicals - Knowing how to properly handle, use and store chemicals is the key to ensuring everyone's health and safety on the job as well as at home.

You can detect hazardous chemical releases by observation and smell. In order to protect yourself from hazardous chemical exposure make sure you know the importance of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE).



**MSDS's list the proper PPE needed for each chemical:**

- ◆ Respirators - to prevent inhaling a certain chemical
- ◆ Gloves - to prevent skin contact with the chemical
- ◆ Eye protection - to prevent splashes from reaching the eyes
- ◆ Protective clothing - to prevent body contact by the chemical







<p><b>1.</b> The Hazard Communication Standard was issued by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. EPA</li> <li>b. NFPA</li> <li>c. OSHA</li> <li>d. MSDS</li> </ul>	<p><b>2.</b> Some examples of Physical Hazards may be: Heart ailments, central nervous system, cancer and burns.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. True</li> <li>b. False</li> </ul>
<p><b>3.</b> If you have a question about a chemical or product, you can consult:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Your Supervisor</li> <li>b. MSDS/labels</li> <li>c. Loss Prevention/Safety</li> <li>d. All of the above</li> </ul>	<p><b>4.</b> Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) must be readily available to all associates during all working hours.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. True</li> <li>b. False</li> </ul>
<p><b>5.</b> The following statements about labels are true except:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. All chemicals must be labeled.</li> <li>b. If a label is missing you must replace it.</li> <li>c. A label can tell you exactly which chemical is in the container.</li> <li>d. If you transfer the chemical to a new container you don't have to label it.</li> </ul>	<p><b>6.</b> The following statements are true except:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Use the proper PPE for the chemical in use.</li> <li>b. Know where to find and how to use the fire extinguisher.</li> <li>c. Clean up the spill and report it later.</li> <li>d. Slowly mix solvents-even when wearing gloves.</li> </ul>
<p><b>7.</b> By law, you have the right to know about chemicals and potential safety and health hazards in the work place.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. True</li> <li>b. False</li> </ul>	<p><b>8.</b> OSHA's HAZCOM Standard requires: Chemical _____ and _____ to evaluate the hazards of chemicals they produce.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. manufacturers and importers</li> <li>b. labels and MSDS</li> </ul>
<p><b>9.</b> It is the associates responsibility to read the MSDS and ask questions if there is anything they do not understand.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. True</li> <li>b. False</li> </ul>	<p><b>10.</b> Hazardous chemicals don't have to be dangerous if you know who to handle them properly.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Think SAM: Safety Always Matters</b></p>



