



## Hazard Communication Information Sheet reflecting the US OSHA Implementation of the *Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS)*

Produced by the SCHC-OSHA Alliance  
GHS/HazCom Information Sheet Workgroup

**Safety Data Sheet (SDS)**

**March 2017**

The revision to the OSHA Hazard Communication Standard (HCS, 29 CFR 1910.1200) that became effective May 25, 2012 (HCS 2012) makes several significant changes to safety data sheets (SDSs); formerly known as Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDSs). The revised standard requires new SDSs to 1) be in the new 16 section format for chemicals shipped after June 1, 2015 and, 2) that employers train their workers on the new SDS format and label elements by December 1, 2013.

### *OSHA Definition Safety Data Sheet*

In the revised rule, OSHA defines a safety data sheet as “written or printed material concerning a hazardous chemical that is prepared in accordance with paragraph (g) of this section” of title 29 CFR 1910.1200.

### *Requirements*

Paragraph (g) of the standard requires chemical manufacturers and importers to obtain or develop an SDS for each hazardous chemical they produce or import. It also requires employers to have a safety data sheet for each hazardous chemical they use in the workplace and employers must ensure that SDSs are readily accessible to employees. The SDS must be in English but other languages are permitted as well.

The HCS issued in 1994 indicated what information had to be included on an MSDS, but did not specify a format for presentation or order of information. Now, with the publication of the HCS 2012, the information on the SDS must be listed in the required 16-section format. The SDS format is based on the ANSI standard format which is widely used in the U.S. and is already familiar to many employees.

Paragraph (g) of the HCS final rule indicates the headings of each section of the SDS and specifies the order in which they are to be provided. In addition, Appendix D of the final rule indicates what information is to be included under each section of the SDS.

### *SDS Section Headings and Content Descriptions*

As of June 1, 2015, the HCS will require new SDSs to be in a uniform format, and include the section numbers, the headings, and associated information under the headings below:

**Section 1, Identification** includes product identifier; name, address and telephone number of the manufacturer, importer or other responsible party; emergency phone number; recommended use; restrictions on use.

**Section 2, Hazard(s) identification** includes classification of the chemical; required label elements; if a mixture is not fully tested, a reference to unknown acute toxicity.

**Section 3, Composition/information on ingredients** includes information on chemical ingredients (name, CAS number, exact percentage or concentration ranges); trade secret claims.

**Section 4, First-aid measures** includes important symptoms/effects, acute, delayed; required treatment by route of exposure.

**Section 5, Fire-fighting measures** lists suitable extinguishing techniques, protective equipment; chemical hazards from fire.

**Section 6, Accidental release measures** lists personal precautions, 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); ACGIH 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 as well as conditions and materials to avoid.

**Section 11, Toxicological 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\*** provides guidance on proper disposal practices, recycling or reclamation of the chemical(s) or its container, and safe handling practices. To minimize exposure, this section should also refer the reader to Section 8 (Exposure Controls/Personal Protection) of the SDS.

**Section 14, Transport information\*** provides guidance on classification information for shipping and transporting of hazardous chemical(s) by road, air, rail, or sea.

**Section 15, Regulatory information\*** identifies the 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.

\*Note: Since other Agencies regulate this information, OSHA will not be enforcing Sections 12 through 15 (29 CFR 1910.1200(g)(2)).

### To learn more...

- OSHA: Hazard Communication : <https://www.osha.gov/dsg/hazcom/index.html>
- SCHC site: <http://www.schc.org/osha-alliance>

*The information contained in this sheet is believed to accurately represent current OSHA HCS requirements. However, SCHC cannot guarantee the accuracy or completeness of this information. Users are responsible for determining the suitability and appropriateness of these materials for any particular application.*

*Through the OSHA and SCHC Alliance, SCHC developed this sheet for informational purposes only. It does not necessarily reflect the official views of OSHA or the U.S. Department of Labor.*

Copyright © SCHC 2017 | Cannot be reproduced or distributed for commercial purposes.

Under the Occupational Safety and Health Act, [employers are responsible](#) for providing a safe and healthy workplace and [workers have rights](#). OSHA can help answer questions or concerns from employers and workers. OSHA's [On-site Consultation Program](#) offers free and confidential advice to small and medium-sized businesses, with priority given to high-hazard worksites. For more information, contact your [regional or area OSHA office](#), call 1-800-321-OSHA (6742), or visit [www.osha.gov](http://www.osha.gov).