

HAZARD COMMUNICATION TRAINING OUTLINE

The Provisions of the Hazard Communication Standard

OSHA has issued a regulation for controlling chemical exposures to employees on the job.

It can be found in the Code of Federal Regulations at 29 CFR 1910.1200.

The regulation is called the Hazard Communication Standard but is commonly known as HAZCOM or the "Right to Know Law".

The Hazard Communication Standard says that you have a right to know what chemicals you are working with or around.

The standard requires that all chemicals in the workplace be evaluated for potential physical and health hazards. This information must be made available to you.

What Does the Standard Cover?

Requires any employer that uses chemicals to comply with the regulation.

All employees need to be informed about the hazardous chemicals they work with and how to protect themselves.

Both training and written materials will inform you about the chemicals you work with.

Your supervisor can assist you with understanding the written hazard communication program or Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS).

Areas specifically covered under the standard include:

- Determining the hazard of the chemicals
- Material Safety Data Sheets
- Labels and labeling
- A written hazard communication program
- Employee information and training
- Trade secrets

The hazard communication standard is performance orientated. The type and method of training is not specified, but the standard indicates the desired results.

Training should begin during initial orientation and when a new chemical is introduced into the work area. Any employee who has not been trained must receive training equivalent to an initial assignment.

What Are Physical and Health Hazards?

Certain chemicals due to physical properties - flammability, reactivity, etc. exhibit physical hazards.

These chemicals are classified as:

- Flammable liquids or solids
- Combustible liquids
- Compressed gasses
- Explosives
- Organic peroxides
- Oxidizers
- Unstable materials
- Water reactive materials

Health hazard occurs when a chemical causes an acute or chronic health effect to exposed employees. It can be an obvious effect such as immediate death or can take time and repeated exposure to cause harm.

An acute health effect usually occurs rapidly. Chronic effect is a long continuous or repeated long-term exposure.

Hazardous waste regulated by the Environmental Protection Agency, tobacco products, wood or wood products, food, drugs and cosmetics are not covered by the standard.

Routes of Entry

- Skin contact (absorption)
- Ingestion
- Inhalation

Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS)

We must have MSDSs for every hazardous chemical it uses. This includes pesticides, herbicides, floor strippers, paints, drain cleaners, fuels, and other chemicals used by the employees.

Copies of the MSDS must be maintained in a file that is accessible during the work-shift.

No specific format is required for the MSDS's. However, they must be in English and contain certain information such as:

- Identity of chemical (as used on the label)
- Physical hazards
- Health hazards
- Primary routes of entry
- Whether it is a carcinogen
- Precautions for safe handling and use
- Emergency and first aid procedures
- Date of latest revision
- Name, address, and phone number of manufacturer, importer or other responsible party

If no information was found in a relevant category, it must be noted on the MSDS. No spaces are to be left blank.

NOTE: HAVE SAMPLE MSDSs OF CHEMICALS USED AT YOUR FACILITY AVAILABLE TO DISCUSS. REVIEW EACH OF THE ITEMS OF INFORMATION. THIS WILL FAMILIARIZE THEM WITH THE MSDS FORMAT.

Labels and Labeling Requirements

Containers of hazardous chemicals must be labeled in English. If the workforce has non-English speaking employees, labels may be in that language as well. Labels must contain the following information:

- Identity of the hazardous chemical
- Appropriate hazard warnings
- Name and address of the chemical manufacturer, importer or other responsible party

On individual stationary container signs, batch tickets, or printed operating instructions may be used in place of labels.

If the employee transferring the chemical from one container to another during his work shift intends the chemical for immediate use, the portable transfer vessel is not required to be labeled.

However, if that vessel is to be used on another shift it must be labeled.

NOTE: EXPLAIN THE TYPE OF LABELING SYSTEM USED AT YOUR FACILITY.

Written Hazard Communication Programs

We are required to have a written hazard communication program. This program details how we will meet the requirements for labeling, MSDSs, employee training and training.

Our program includes:

- A list of hazardous chemicals known to be present in the workplace
- How MSDS requirements will be met
- The type of labeling system used
- Information on training compliance
- Method used to keep employees informed of the hazards of non-routine tasks
- Method of informing contractors on your site of chemical hazards at your facility

Employees are to be informed, where the written hazard communication program and copies of the MSDSs are kept.

The training program must include the following:

- Methods of observations - used to detect release or presence of hazard chemicals
- Physical and health hazards - of chemicals
- Measures you can take to protect yourself - from chemical hazards such as changing work practices and personal protective equipment
- Details of the hazard communication program - including information on labeling and MSDSs

Hazard Communication Standard Employee Quiz

Name: _____ Date: _____

Facility: _____

Circle the correct answer

1. The Hazard Communication Standard is commonly known as:
 - a. The Chemical Law
 - b. The Show Me Law
 - c. The Right to Know Law
 - d. The Chemical Training Law

2. The standard requires all but the following:
 - a. Labeling
 - b. Training
 - c. Obtaining MSDSs
 - d. Annual testing

3. Carcinogens are chemicals that can cause:
 - a. Skin rashes
 - b. Nervous disorders
 - c. Blindness
 - d. Cancer

4. MSDSs must be written in which language?
 - a. English
 - b. Spanish
 - c. Both a and b
 - d. Neither a or b

5. Flammability is what type of hazard?
 - a. Physical hazard
 - b. Health hazard
 - c. Freezing hazard
 - d. Environmental hazard

6. Health hazards that happen suddenly, like breathing poisonous fumes and immediately dying are called:
 - a. Chronic
 - b. Long term
 - c. Acute
 - d. Neutral

7. A Material Safety Data Sheet for "Roundup" must have all of the following information except:
 - a. Whether the chemical is a carcinogen
 - b. Date of latest revision
 - c. Identity of chemical as used on its label
 - d. Date the chemical was manufactured.

8. Warning labels for "Any Chemical " must have all but the following:
 - a. Our parish name on the label
 - b. Appropriate hazard warning
 - c. Name and address of the chemical manufacturer or distributor
 - d. Identity of the hazardous chemical (must match MSDS)

9. The written program must include all but:
 - a. A list of hazardous chemicals known to be present at your facility
 - b. A list of every chemical we have has ever used
 - c. The type of labeling system we use for chemicals
 - d. How MSDS requirements are being met

10. When must you be trained about any chemical (herbicide, pesticide, floor stripper, paint or paint thinner?)?
 - a. After you feel ill from working with it
 - b. Only if you request training
 - c. Within 30 days after beginning work with it
 - d. Before you begin using it

ANSWERS TO QUIZ

1. C
2. D
3. D
4. A
5. A
6. C
7. D
8. A
9. B
10. D