

MAFES Dawg Tracks



January 5, 2009 Reading Material Safety Data Sheets



Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) are prepared by the manufacturer of all the various chemicals to describe the characteristics of their product and to furnish information detailing their potential hazards. The MSDS should be accessible and readily available for all employees to use at anytime they need or want to refer to them.

WHAT INFORMATION IS ON THE MSDS?

Company Information:

- ~Company name
- ~Product Name
- ~Company address with an emergency phone number.

Hazardous Ingredients:

- ~A hazardous chemical mixture that has been tested to determine the hazards of each chemical and common names of the ingredients that are associated with the hazards listed. The common name of the mixture must also be listed.
- ~If the chemical is a mixture that hasn't been tested, the chemical and common name of all ingredients determined to be health hazards and comprising 1% or greater of the composition must be listed.
- ~Chemical and common names of carcinogens must be listed if they contain 0.1% or greater of the mixture.
- ~All components of a mixture that have been determined to present a physical hazard must be listed.
- ~Chemical and common names of all ingredients determined to be health hazards and comprising less than 1% (.1% of carcinogens) of the mixture must be listed if they can exceed the Permissible Exposure Limit (PEL) or Threshold Limit Value (TLV) or present a health hazard to employees in these concentrations.

Physical Data:

- ~The physical and chemical characteristics of the hazardous substance must be listed, such as boiling points, freezing points, density, vapor pressure, specific gravity, solubility, volatility, general appearance and odor.

These characteristics provide important information for designing safe and healthful work practices –

Fire and Explosion Data:

- ~The compound's potential for explosion must be described.
- ~The fire hazards and the conditions that it might ignite or explode must be identified.
- ~Recommended extinguishing agents and fire-fighting methods must be described.

Reactivity Data:

- ~Presents information about chemicals and substances with which it reacts. Information on any hazardous decomposition products, like carbon monoxide, must be listed.

Health Hazards:

- ~The acute and chronic health hazards of the chemical, together with signs and symptoms of exposure, must be listed.
- ~Medical conditions that are aggravated by exposure must be listed.
- ~Chemical health hazards such as carcinogens, corrosives, toxins, irritants, sensitizers, effects on vital organs must be listed.
- ~Routes of entry into body, such as inhalation, ingestion or absorption must be listed.
- ~This section also lists all exposure levels, such as THE OSHA PEL, the ACGIH TLV and other exposure levels.
- ~If the compound is listed as a carcinogen (cancer-causing agent), it also must be indicated on the MSDS.

Safe Handling and Use:

- ~Precautions for safe use must be listed, such as hygiene use, leak and spill cleanup, and maintenance of equipment. Some manufacturers will provide the EPA disposal methods.

**~SAFE ACTIONS BRING~
LASTING SATISFACTION!**

SAFETY-JUST DO IT!!