Toolbox Talks

Safety Data Sheets

Workers that handle chemicals or are in a work environment where chemicals are used, have a right to know the dangers of those chemicals. The main source of detailed information about hazardous materials is the **safety data sheet (SDS).**

Important information that the safety data sheet will communicate:

- What exactly is the material
- What is this material's hazards
- What are the proper handling and storage procedures
- What to do in an emergency involving this material

OSHA Standard 1910.1200(g)(8) The employer shall maintain in the workplace copies of the required safety data sheets for each hazardous chemical and shall ensure that they are readily accessible during each work shift to employees when they are in their work area(s).

All employees should know where to find and have easy access to a list of chemical hazards that may be encountered on the job and the safety data sheet for each one of those substances.

➢ Companies that use, handle, or store hazardous materials should keep all safety data sheets in a central location for easy reference. **SDSs must be readily accessible to employees.**

➢ The information presented on a safety data sheet is written in clear, nontechnical language with standard phrasing.

Safety data sheets organize hazardous material information into sixteen numbered sections, which always appear in the same order.

➢ Information that is most important, or will need to be referenced in an emergency, is always placed in the front, in the first six sections.

➢ Details on safe storage and handling is found in sections 7-10 in the middle of the SDS.

➢ More specialized, technical information is found toward the end of the SDS in sections 11-16.

Sections of the SDS

Section 1 PRODUCT IDENTIFICATION name, manufacturer, and supplier information.
Section 2 HAZARDS reviews hazards and safety precautions of the substance.
Section 3 COMPOSITION technical details about what is in the material.
Section 4 FIRST AID MEASURES what to do if first aid is required.
Section 5 FIREFIGHTING MEASURES in case there is a fire in the facility.
Section 6 ACCIDENTAL RELEASE MEASURES what to do if there is a spill to clean-up.
Section 7 HANDLING AND STORAGE
Section 8 EXPOSURE CONTROLS AND PPE
Section 9 PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL PROPERTIES
Section 10 STABILITY AND REACTIVITY

Section 11 TOXICOLOGICAL INFORMATION
Section 12 ECOLOGICAL
Section 13 DISPOSAL
Section 14 TRANSPORT
Section 15 REGULATORY
Section 16 OTHER INFORMATION

Safety Topic:	Date/Time:
Facilitator:	Location:

Name	Signature	

ABC Maine
Associated Builders and Contractors