

Safety Matters

Provided by:
Brady, Chapman, Holland & Associates



Hazard Communication Program

Through the course of your job duties, you may be required to work with dangerous chemicals. is dedicated to ensuring your safety, so we have a Hazard Communication Program in place. The goal of this program is to make you aware of chemicals you may be in contact with on the job and to help you understand the potential hazards of those chemicals. This education is required by the Occupational Safety & Health Act (OSHA). It is equally important to learn this information to keep customers safe in the event they are exposed to any hazardous chemicals.

Safety Data Sheets

One important key to a Hazard Communication Program is the Safety Data Sheet (SDS), which contains information broken down into 16 different categories. This sheet tells you everything you need to know about a specific chemical, including:

- The health hazards associated with the chemical.
- How flammable the product is, and at what temperature it may ignite.
- The reactivity of the chemical with water or other agents and how likely it is to explode.
- Other important aspects of the Hazard Communication program include:
 - Accurate Labeling of containers that contain chemicals, including warning labels when applicable.
 - Ensuring that labels are not removed.
 - Employee training in accordance with your job duties relating to chemicals.

Important Questions to Ask

Through our Hazard Communication Program, every employee should learn the following information:

- What chemicals might I handle or be exposed to on the job?
- Where are the SDSs kept for the chemicals I am exposed to?
- What kinds of hazards do I face when I use, or misuse, a particular chemical?
- Do I understand the emergency procedures to follow in the event of a spill?

Though it is our goal to teach you the information you need, it is your responsibility to learn it and ask questions if necessary. You should follow all safety procedures when working around chemicals, keep in mind potential hazards and always wear appropriate PPE. You are also entitled to obtain a written copy of our Hazard Communication Program – simply ask your supervisor.

Achieving Safety Together

It may seem overwhelming to learn about all the chemicals you may handle or be exposed to, but it is important knowledge that all workers should have. Always be sure to ask questions or reference the appropriate SDS if you forget or have yet to learn about a certain chemical. Failing to do so could result in an extremely hazardous situation for you, your co-workers and our customers. For additional questions on your risks and exposures, or on appropriate coverages to protect you from liability or costly disputes, contact Brady, Chapman, Holland & Associates today.