



GOALS

This safety session teaches employees to:

- Identify the purpose and content of the safety data sheet (SDS).
- Find hazard and protection information for the chemicals they handle.

Applicable Regulations: 29 CFR 1910.1200 (Hazard communication)



1. What is the hazardous chemical's SDS?

- The SDS standardizes chemical safety and health information for chemicals produced or used in any country in the world, including the United States.
- The SDS is written in a standardized 16-section format and may contain more information and detail about chemical hazards and protection.

2. An SDS is required for every hazardous chemical in the workplace.

- The SDS provides safety and health information about chemicals in the workplace.
- An SDS must be available at all times for each hazardous chemical in the workplace.
- Chemical manufacturers and importers are responsible for obtaining or developing an SDS for each hazardous chemical they produce and must provide copies with the initial shipment.
- The SDS must be written in English, although there may be additional copies in other languages for workers who do not speak or read English well.

3. The 16 sections of the SDS provide important safety and health information.

- **Section 1 Identification**—includes product identifier, manufacturer or distributor name, address, phone number, emergency phone number, recommended use, and restrictions on use
- **Section 2 Hazard(s) identification**—includes all hazards regarding the chemical and required label elements
- **Section 3 Composition/information on ingredients**—includes information on chemical ingredients and trade secret claims
- **Section 4 First-aid measures**—includes important immediate or delayed symptoms of exposure to a chemical and the required first-aid treatment
- **Section 5 Firefighting measures**—lists suitable extinguishing techniques, equipment, and chemical hazards from fire
- **Section 6 Accidental release measures**—lists emergency procedures, protective equipment, and 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 the Occupational Safety and Health Administration's (OSHA) permissible exposure limits (PELs), threshold limit values (TLVs), appropriate engineering controls, and personal protective equipment (PPE)
- **Section 9 Physical and chemical properties**—lists the chemical's characteristics
- **Section 10 Stability and reactivity**—lists chemical stability and possible hazardous reactions
- **Section 11 Toxicological information**—includes routes of exposure (inhalation, ingestion, or absorption contact), symptoms, acute and chronic effects, and numerical measures of toxicity
- **Section 12 Ecological information**—how the chemical might affect the environment and the duration of the effect
- **Section 13 Disposal considerations**—describes safe handling of wastes and methods of disposal, including the disposal of any contaminated packaging
- **Section 14 Transportation information**—includes packing, marking, and labeling requirements for hazardous chemical shipments
- **Section 15 Regulatory information**—indicates regulations that apply to chemical
- **Section 16 Other information**—includes date of preparation or last revision

4. Understand SDS information for the hazardous chemicals you handle.

- Before handling any hazardous chemical, read the SDS to identify hazards and protections.
- If there is anything you don't understand, ask your supervisor before using the chemical.



DISCUSSION POINTS:

Review SDSs for chemicals in your workplace, making sure participants know where to find and how to interpret all necessary safety and health information about the chemicals they handle.



CONCLUSION:

- The SDS is your source of information about chemical hazards and protection.
- Always read the SDS before you handle any hazardous chemical. If you have any questions about hazards or safe handling procedures, ask your supervisor before you handle the chemical.



TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE:

Have your employees take the What You'll Find on an SDS quiz. By testing their knowledge, you can judge their ability to read and interpret the SDS and whether they need to review this important topic again soon.



WHAT YOU'LL FIND ON AN SDS QUIZ

- 1. The safety data sheet (SDS) replaces the material safety data sheet (MSDS).**
a. True b. False
- 2. An SDS is required only for chemicals produced in the United States.**
a. True b. False
- 3. In which section of the SDS will you find first-aid information?**
a. Section 1
b. Section 4
c. Section 8
- 4. If you want to identify hazards of a chemical you handle, look in Section 1 of the SDS.**
a. True b. False
- 5. Information about accidental releases of a hazardous chemical is found in which section of the SDS?**
a. Section 3
b. Section 6
c. Section 13
- 6. You can find out if a chemical will react with other chemicals in Section 4 of the SDS.**
a. True b. False
- 7. Which section of the SDS should you consult for handling and storage information?**
a. Section 7
b. Section 9
c. Section 12
- 8. If you want to find out what type of PPE you need to wear when handling a chemical, you should look in Section 4.**
a. True b. False
- 9. To find an emergency phone number for the chemical manufacturer, look in Section 15.**
a. True b. False
- 10. If there is any information in an SDS you don't understand, ask your supervisor before you handle the chemical.**
a. True b. False

When you have completed this quiz, turn it in to your supervisor.

Name: _____

Date: _____



ANSWERS TO WHAT YOU'LL FIND ON AN SDS QUIZ

1. a. True. As a result of the implementation of the GHS, the SDS has been created to replace the MSDS.
2. b. False. An SDS is required for all hazardous chemicals manufactured or distributed anywhere in the world. The SDS standardizes chemical safety and health information for chemicals produced or used in any country in the world, including the United States.
3. b. First-aid information is contained in Section 4 of the SDS.
4. b. False. Section 2 of the SDS identifies chemical hazards. Several other sections also indicate hazards. Section 1, however, identifies the manufacturer or distributor of the chemical.
5. b. Section 6 addresses accidental releases and contains containment and cleanup information.
6. b. False. Section 10 contains stability and reactivity information about a chemical.
7. a. Section 7 contains safe handling and storage information.
8. b. False. Section 8, Exposure controls/Personal protection, identifies required PPE.
9. b. False. The emergency phone number, along with the name and address, for the manufacturer or distributor is in Section 1.
10. a. True. Never use a hazardous chemical if you are unsure about hazards or required protection.