

READING SAFETY DATA SHEETS

The Occupational Health and Safety Administration's (OSHA) Hazard Communication Standard (HCS) requires chemical manufacturers, distributors, or importers to provide Safety Data Sheets (SDSs) (formerly known as Material Safety Data Sheets or MSDSs) to communicate the hazards of hazardous chemical products. The HCS follows the Global Harmonized System of Classification and Labeling of Chemicals (GHS). The HCS requires the new SDSs to be in a uniform format, and include the section numbers, the headings, and associated information under the headings below.

<p style="text-align: center;">Section 1, Identification</p> <p>Includes product identifier; manufacturer or distributor name, address, phone number; emergency phone number; recommended use; restrictions on use.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Section 2, Hazard(s) identification</p> <p>Includes all hazards regarding the chemical; required label elements.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Section 3, Composition/information on ingredients</p> <p>Includes information on chemical ingredients; trade secret claims.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Section 4, First-aid measures</p> <p>Includes important symptoms/side effects, acute, delayed; required treatment.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Section 5, Fire-fighting measures</p> <p>Lists suitable extinguishing techniques, equipment; chemical hazards from fire.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Section 6, Accidental release measures</p> <p>Lists emergency procedures; protective equipment; proper methods of containment and cleanup.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Section 7, Handling and storage</p> <p>Lists precautions for the safe handling and storage, includes incompatibilities.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Section 8, Exposure controls/personal protection</p> <p>Lists OSHA's Permissible Exposure Limits (PELs); American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienist (ACGIH) Threshold Limit Values (TLVs); and any other exposure limit used or recommended by the chemical manufacturer, importer, or employer preparing the SDS where available as well as appropriate engineering controls; personal protective equipment (PPE).</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Section 9, Physical and chemical properties</p> <p>Lists the chemical's characteristics.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Section 10, Stability and reactivity</p> <p>Lists chemical stability and possibility of hazardous reactions.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Section 11, Toxicological information</p> <p>Includes routes of exposure; related symptoms; acute and chronic effects; numerical measures of toxicity.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Section 12, Ecological information</p> <p>Includes information on ecotoxicity; persistence and degradability; bioaccumulative potential; mobility in soil</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Section 13, Disposal considerations</p> <p>Includes description of waste residues and information on their safe handling and methods of disposal, including disposal of any contaminated packaging</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Section 14, Transport information</p> <p>Includes UN number; UN proper shipping name; transport hazard class; packing group; environmental; hazards; transport in bulk; special precautions which the user needs to be aware of, or needs to comply with, in connection with transport or conveyance either within or outside their premises.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Section 15, Regulatory information</p> <p>Safety, health and environmental regulation specific for the product in question.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Section 16, Other information</p> <p>Includes the date of preparation or last revision.</p>