

WEEKLY SAFETY MEETING

FOR THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY

SAFETY MEETING OUTLINES

Box 700, Frankfort, IL 60423

815-464-0200

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Week of 9/4/2023

Company Name _____

Job Name _____

Date _____

MSDSs

It's been almost ten years since the Hazard Communication Standard was enacted, but many construction workers still don't know exactly what the standard covers or how it protects them. The standard addresses five main topics: 1) identifying hazardous materials, 2) product warning labels, 3) material safety data sheets, 4) written hazard communication program, and 5) employee training. Today we will focus on the third topic: material safety data sheets or MSDSs.

The MSDS is a reference sheet that includes important information about a chemical. The MSDS is furnished to your employer by the manufacturer or supplier of the material. Just as a set of blueprints describes how to build a building, the MSDS describes how to safely handle and use a hazardous material. Included in these plans are the following:

- Chemical Name and Manufacturer's Name
- Hazardous Ingredients
- Physical and Chemical Characteristics
- Fire and Explosion Data
- Reactivity Data
- Health Hazards
- Special Precautions and Spill Procedures
- Special Protection Information and Control Measures.

It makes good sense to know what you will be working with before using any chemical. You should review the MSDS. If you see "caution", "hazardous", or "flammable" on the label, pay special attention to the parts of the MSDS that help you abate these hazards. The special protection information and control measures section discusses the types of PPE you will need to wear.

You have the right and responsibility to review the MSDS prior to using any chemical. Most employers keep MSDSs in a binder in job trailer. If you are working on a large project, they may be in the office trailer for the general contractor or construction manager. If you have a question about a particular MSDS, ask your supervisor.

To summarize the third topic of the Hazard Communication Standard: recognize hazardous materials, know where to find the appropriate MSDS, take time to read both the MSDS and the label, and follow all handling instructions. If you do all these things, you can work safely with hazardous chemicals.

Knowledge is power.

SAFETY REMINDER

**The knowledge you gain from MSDSs
gives you the power to work safely with chemicals.**

Special Topics For Your Project _____

Employee Safety Recommendations _____

Reviewed MSDS # _____

Subject _____

Meeting Attended By _____

Supervisor's Signature _____