

Safety Note

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH AND SAFETY



Safety Note #21

MATERIAL SAFETY DATA SHEETS



California Code of Regulations (CCR) Title 8, Section 5194 (g) (1) requires a material safety data sheet (MSDS) for each hazardous chemical present in the workplace. In addition, the employer is required under CCR Title 8, Section 5194 (h) (1) and (2) to provide employees with information and training about hazardous substances in their work areas, including an explanation of MSDSs and providing the location and availability of MSDSs. It is imperative for employees to both understand MSDS information and to know the location(s) where MSDSs are stored.

Information Required on MSDSs [CCR Title 8, Section 5194 (g) (2)]

- Each MSDS shall be in English and contain the chemical common name and Chemical Abstracts Service (CAS) identification number for the hazardous substance.
- Physical and chemical properties of the hazardous substance (i.e., flash point).
- Physical hazards of the hazardous substance, including the potential for fire, explosion, and reactivity.
- Health hazards of the hazardous substance, including signs and symptoms of exposure, and any medical conditions recognized as being aggravated by exposure to the substance.
- Potential routes of entry into the body.
- Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) permissible exposure limit, American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists (ACGIH) threshold limit value, or any other exposure limit recommended by the manufacturer preparing the MSDS.
- Listing in the National Toxicology Program (NTP) *Sixth Annual Report on Carcinogens* or has been found to be a potential carcinogen in the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) *Monographs*, Vols. 1 through 53 and Supplements 1 through 8 or by OSHA.
- Applicable precautions for safe handling and use, including appropriate hygienic practices, protective measures during repair and maintenance of contaminated equipment, and procedures for cleanup of spills and leaks.
- Suitable control measures, including appropriate engineering controls, work practices, or personal protective equipment.
- Emergency and first-aid procedures.
- Date of preparation of the MSDS or the date of last revision.
- Name, date, and telephone number of the hazardous substance manufacturer.
- A description in lay terms of specific potential health risks posed by the hazardous substance.

If you do not understand any of the information provided on a MSDS, contact your supervisor for clarification about the information in question.