

Hazard Communication

There are more than five-hundred thousand chemical products on the market today and hundreds of new ones are introduced each year. To reduce or eliminate the chance of injury or illness from handling chemicals at work, always follow the rules prescribed by the product manufacturer and your organization's Hazard Communication Program (HCP).

Your HCP contains:

- A list of all hazardous chemicals at the workplace.
- Operations in your work area where hazardous chemicals are present.
- Training on the hazardous materials in the workplace.
- Safety data sheets (SDSs) for all onsite chemicals both received and produced.
- Procedures to ensure that all containers of hazardous chemicals in the work area are labeled with the identity of the chemicals and the appropriate hazard warnings.



Your HCP provides proper training in:

- Specific hazards of the chemical you are working with.
- Proper work practices, personal protective equipment and other controls necessary to reduce or eliminate your exposure to the chemicals.
- Methods you can use to detect the presence or release of hazardous chemicals.
- Signs of overexposure as well as emergency and first-aid procedures to follow.
- An understanding of SDSs and product labels.

Remember, the products you use warrant respect and need to be handled correctly. Be sure you know how to use them safely.