



Partnership with Clearya to Make Workers' Right to Know Real

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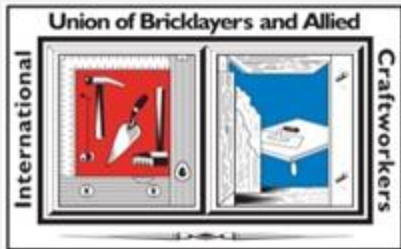


The BlueGreen Alliance unifies labor unions and environmental organizations into a powerful force to fight climate change, protect the health of people and the environment, stand against economic and racial inequality, and create and maintain good-paying, union jobs in communities across the country.





**BLUEGREEN
ALLIANCE**



**NATIONAL
WILDLIFE
FEDERATION**

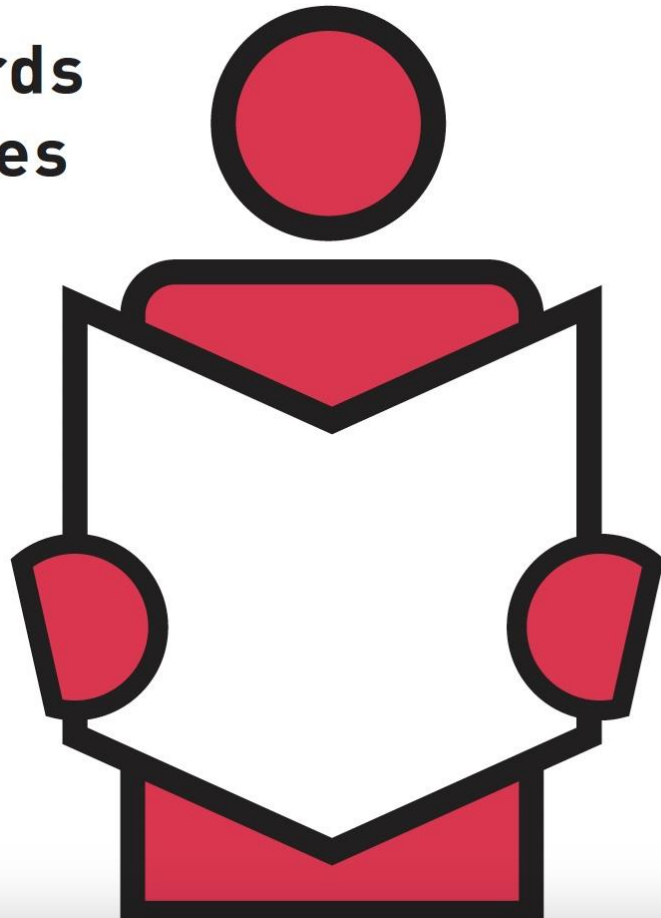


YOU HAVE A RIGHT TO KNOW!

Your employer must inform you of the health effects and hazards of toxic substances at your worksite.

Learn all you can about toxic substances on your job.

For more information, contact:



US OSHA's Hazard Communication Standard

(A)(2) this occupational safety and health standard is intended to address comprehensively the issue of classifying the potential hazards of chemicals, and communicating information concerning hazards and appropriate protective measures to employees



Formaldehyde

CAS: 50-00-0

Stronger effect / evidence     Weaker eff

How can this chemical affect my health?

Acute (Short Term) Effects



Toxic to Humans & Animals – Can be fatal on contact, ingestion or inhalation for humans and other mammals.



Irritates the Skin – Can cause irritation or serious damage to the skin.



Irritates the Eyes – Can cause irritation or serious damage to the eye.

Chronic (Long Term) Effects



Asthma Trigger – Can result in high sensitivity so that small quantities trigger asthma, nose or sinus inflammation or other allergic reactions in the respiratory system.



Cancer – Can cause or increase the risk of cancer.



Sensitizes the Skin – Can lead to allergic reactions on the skin.



Gene Damage – Can cause or increase the rate of mutations, which are changes in genetic material in cells.



Endocrine Disruption – Can interfere with hormone communication between cells which controls metabolism, development, growth, and reproduction.



Birth Defects – Can cause harm to a developing child including birth defects, low birth weight and biological or behavioral abnormalities.

Hazard Communication



The standard that gave workers the right to know, now gives them the right to understand.



Safety Data Sheets >

Labeling >

Pictograms >

Interpretations >

Standards >

Guidance >

International >

FAO's >

The Hazard Communication Standard (HCS) is now aligned with the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labeling of Chemicals (GHS). This update to the Hazard Communication Standard (HCS) will provide a common and coherent approach to classifying chemicals and communicating hazard information on labels and safety data sheets. This update will also help reduce trade barriers and result in productivity improvements for American businesses that regularly handle, store, and use hazardous chemicals while providing cost savings for American businesses that periodically update safety data sheets and labels for chemicals covered under the hazard communication standard.

Highlights

- [HCS Final Rule](#) **NEW**
- [Information on the OSHA public stakeholder meeting - preparation for the 46th session of the UN Sub-committee meeting in Geneva.](#) **NEW**
- [Joint OSHA/Health Canada Comparison of Labelling Requirements for Hazardous Products](#)
- [Joint OSHA/Health Canada Guid](#)



Hazard Communication Safety Data Sheets

The Hazard Communication Standard (HCS) requires chemical manufacturers, distributors, or importers to provide Safety Data Sheets (SDSs) for each hazardous chemical. The HCS requires SDSs to be in a uniform format and include the section numbers, the headings, and associated information under the headings below:

Section 1, Identification includes product identifier used on the label; manufacturer or distributor name, U.S. address and phone number; emergency phone number; recommended use; restrictions on use.

Section 2, Hazard(s) identification includes all hazards regarding the chemical's intrinsic properties including a change in the chemical's physical form and chemical reaction products associated with known or reasonably anticipated uses or applications; required label elements.

HCS Pictogram

Health Hazard



- Carcinogen
- Mutagenicity
- Reproductive Toxicity
- Respiratory Sensitizer
- Target Organ Toxicity
- Aspiration Toxicity

Flam



- Flammable
- Pyrophor
- Self-Heat
- Emits Fla
- Self-Reac
- Organic I

OBSTRUCTING THE RIGHT TO KNOW

A BLUEGREEN ALLIANCE/CLEAR YA ANALYSIS
OF THE CHEMICAL INDUSTRY'S HEALTH HAZARD WARNINGS
ON SAFETY DATA SHEETS



The BlueGreen Alliance and Clearya review of an initial set of more than 650 SDSs shows that

30%

of SDSs analyzed included inaccurate chemical hazard warnings.

15%

of the SDSs with cancer-causing chemicals failed to warn of carcinogenicity.

21%

of the SDSs for products with chemicals that harm reproduction did not warn that they could harm fertility or fetal development.



So find the SDSs for the products you know are being used.

Download the PDFs and email them to:
sds@bluegreenalliance.org.

Make sure to include the name of your workplace and the department and the use of the product. You can "zip" the SDS together if it's more convenient for you.

Clerya has developed software that, in a few seconds, can read the list of chemicals in a SDS and figure out if the product contains chemicals that can potentially cause breast cancer, other cancers or other health problems like infertility. In addition, the analysis can detect hazard warnings missing from the SDS. The Clerya analysis will be sent back to you and to the Women of Steel office in Pittsburgh.



For more information on chemical hazards, go to www.ChemHAT.org

Questions, Comments, Workshop requests? Please send an email to sds@bluegreenalliance.org



www.bluegreenalliance.org

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Let's Put Breast Cancer Out Of Work!



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