

Sections of the MSDS

COMPONENTS OF THE OSHA FORMAT MSDS

The MSDS will first identify the chemical in the same manner as the label on the container. The identity will include the product name and common name of the material. The following is a breakdown of the MSDS sections and information they contain.

Section I - Supplier Information

- Name, address and phone number of the company that makes the chemical
- Date the MSDS was prepared

Section II - Hazard Ingredients/Identity Information

- Chemical and common names of all ingredients which have been determined to be reportable health hazards
- OSHA's Permissible Exposure Limit (PEL) and/or the American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists' Threshold Value Limit (TLV) for safe exposure

Section III - Physical/Chemical Characteristics

- Boiling point and melting point
- Vapor pressure, vapor density and evaporation rate
- Solubility in water and specific gravity
- Appearance and odor of the chemical under normal conditions

Section IV - Fire and Explosion Hazard Data

- Flash point
- Extinguishing media
- Special fire fighting procedures and unusual fire and explosion hazards

Section V - Reactivity Data

- Stability
- Incompatibility
- Hazardous decomposition or byproducts
- Hazardous polymerization

Section VI - Health Hazard Data

- Routes of entry
- Health hazards (acute and/or chronic)
- Signs and symptoms of exposure
- Emergency first aid procedures

Section VII - Precautions for Safe Handling and Use

- Precautions to be taken in handling and storage
- Waste disposal procedure

Section VIII - Control Measures

- Respiratory protection
- Ventilation
- Protective gloves
- Eye protection
- Other protective clothing or equipment
- Work/Hygienic practices

COMPONENTS OF THE ANSI FORMAT MSDS

There are generally 15 or 16 sections in this format. The following is a brief summary of the individual sections and the information they provide.

Section 1 - Chemical Product and Company Identification

- Chemical name (as it appears on the label)
- Name, address and phone number of the company that makes or distributes the chemical

Section 2 - Composition, Information on ingredients

- Lists OSHA hazardous ingredients
- May list other key ingredients
- May include the chemical's safe exposure limits

Section 3 - Hazards Identification

- Lists possible health effects of exposure to the chemical

Section 4 - First Aid Measures

- Instruction on what to do if exposure occurs
- May include instructions to medical professionals

Section 5 - Fire Fighting Measures

- Explains likelihood of substance to catch fire and associated circumstances
- Describes other fire and explosive properties useful for avoiding and fighting fires involving the material (flash point, explosive limits)

Section 6 - Accidental Release

- Methods to contain a spill or leak

- Clean-up procedures
- Safety precautions

Section 7 - Handling and Storage

- Information on safe handling and storage practices.

Section 8 - Exposure Controls, Personal Protection

- Personal protective clothing and equipment necessary to prevent exposure to the chemical

Section 9 - Physical and Chemical properties

- Physical and chemical properties that help identify the type and degree of hazard

Section 10 - Stability and Reactivity

- Conditions that could cause the chemical to have a potentially hazardous reaction

Section 11 - Toxicological Information

- Explains how the chemical was tested for health hazards and the test results

Section 12 - Ecological Information

- Effects of the chemical if released into the environment
- Describes the chemical's environmental fate

Section 13 - Disposal Consideration

- Proper procedures for disposal

Section 14 - Transport Information

- Shipping information

Section 15 - Regulatory Information

- Information on regulations affecting the chemical

Section 16 - Other Information

- Other useful information such as information on MSDS revisions