

Hazard Communication Program

29 CFR 1910.1200, Subpart Z - Hazard Communication

Stevens Institute of Technology
1 Castle Point Terrace
Hoboken, NJ 07030



STEVENS
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The Office of Environmental Health and Safety

Prepared by

The Office of Environmental Health and Safety &
Insurance Risk Management
201-216-8971 EHS@Stevens.edu

Reference Standard

Occupational Safety and Health Administration: 29 CFR 1910.1200, Subpart Z - Hazard Communication

Purpose

This procedure establishes minimum requirements for the following:

- Identification and labeling of hazardous chemicals.
- Employee access to hazardous chemical information.
- Training required to prevent injury or illness due to hazardous chemical exposure.

Scope

This procedure applies to all of our employees, all contractors and vendors performing work on Stevens's property, as well as all other individuals who are visiting or have business with Stevens.

Responsibilities

- The Office of Environmental Health and Safety (EHS) is responsible for identifying hazardous substances and for maintaining this program. Management will review this procedure at least annually and when new hazardous substances are introduced.
- EHS and supervisors are responsible for the implementation and enforcement of this program.
- Employees must comply with all procedures outlined in this policy.
- Contractors and vendors shall comply with all procedures outlined in this policy.

Definitions

Article: A manufactured item other than a fluid or particle:

- Which is formed to a specific shape or design during manufacture;
- Which has end use function(s) dependent in whole or in part upon its shape or design during end use; and
- Which under normal conditions of use does not release more than very small quantities (for example: minute trace amounts of a hazardous chemical and does not pose a physical or health risk to employees).

Chemical: any element, chemical compound or mixture of elements and/or compounds.

Container: any bag, barrel, bottle, box, can, cylinder, drum, reaction vessel, storage tank, or the like that contains a hazardous chemical. Pipes or piping systems, and engines, fuel tanks, or other operating systems in a vehicle, are not considered to be containers.

Contractor: A non-Stevens employee being paid to perform work in our facility.

Hazardous Chemical: a chemical that is a physical or a health hazard.

Health Hazard: A chemical that is carcinogenic, toxic, a reproductive hazard, an irritant, a corrosive, a sensitizer, or damages anybody system or part.

Safety Data Sheet (SDS): An SDS is a written document prepared by the chemical manufacturer or supplier that details the contents, hazards, proper use directives and emergency response protocol for a hazardous chemical.

Physical Hazard: A chemical which is a combustible liquid, a compressed gas, explosive, flammable, organic peroxide, oxidizer, pyrophoric, unstable, or water reactive.

Vendor: A non-Stevens employee performing a service in our facility.

Program Application

This program will be applicable to all chemicals that exhibit or could exhibit health hazards or physical hazards under normal operating conditions or during emergencies. However, the following materials are exempt from this program:

- Consumer products when used in the workplace in a duration and frequency that is not greater than that experienced by a regular consumer;
- Articles (see Definition above);
- Any drug, as that term is defined in the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act, when it is in solid, final form for direct administration to the patient (for example, tablets or pills); drugs which are packaged by the chemical manufacturer for sale to consumers in a retail establishment (such as over-the-counter drugs); and drugs intended for personal consumption by employees while in the workplace (for example, first aid supplies);
- Cosmetics which are packaged for sale to consumers in a retail establishment, and cosmetics intended for personal consumption by employees while in the workplace;
- Wood or wood products that will not be processed (wood treated with hazardous chemicals, or that will be processed generating dust are not exempt);
- Food and alcoholic beverages in retail establishments and food that will be consumed in the workplace; and
- Tobacco and tobacco products.

Procedures

Material Ordering and Hazard Determination

Any employee wishing to introduce a new chemical into the facility must obtain an SDS and submit the SDS to their supervisor and/or EHS prior to ordering the chemical. EHS will evaluate all new or replacement chemicals to determine if the chemical presents health hazards for our employees.

If EHS determines that the new chemical cannot be handled safely, the chemical will not be ordered. Information on new chemicals, or new information pertaining to chemicals that are currently used, will be communicated to affected employees by the EHS. Every effort will be made to select chemicals that are not hazardous or that present the minimum degree of hazard commensurate with necessary chemical capability.

Hazardous Chemical List

A list of hazardous chemicals currently used on campus is maintained by The Office of Environmental Health and Safety. As new chemicals are purchased, the necessary information is added to the Inventory. Obsolete chemicals are removed from the List.

Safety Data Sheets

A SDS will be maintained for all hazardous chemicals, including those purchased at retail locations. The SDS will be available to all employees on all shifts.

The SDS file and Hazardous Chemical List will be maintained in the following location(s):

Griffith Building – Physical Plant

McLean – Lobby

Burchard – Lobby

Rocco – Lobby

Nicoll Lab - Lobby

Obsolete SDS will be removed from the active file and will be maintained in a separate file by the program administrator for 30 years.

Labels and Other Hazard Warnings

All containers containing hazardous chemicals will be labeled with the following information:

- Product Identifier: The chemical's name and a list of the substance(s) it contains.
- Supplier Information: Name, address and phone number of the chemical's manufacturer or supplier.
- Pictogram: A symbol inside a diamond with a red border, denoting a particular hazard class.
- Precautionary Statement: One or more phrases that describe recommended measures to be taken to minimize or prevent adverse effects resulting from exposure to a hazardous chemical or improper storage or handling of a hazardous chemical.
- Signal words: A single word used to indicate the relative level of severity of the hazard and alert the reader to a potential hazard on the label. The signal words used are "danger" and "warning." "Danger" is used for the more severe hazards, while "warning" is used for less severe hazards.
- Hazard Statement: A phrase assigned to each hazard category; examples include "harmful if swallowed," "highly flammable liquid and vapor," etc.

Solid metal, wood and plastic not exempted as articles, as well as grain will not be labeled but will have label information available within the SDS.

Each departmental supervisor is responsible for insuring that all hazardous chemical containers, including containers that are refillable from bulk containers, are labeled properly and that the label is visible. Stationary tanks, reservoirs and sumps containing hazardous chemicals will also be labeled.

Labels will not be removed or covered over.

Training

Training as outlined below will be provided at the following times:

- At time of initial assignment;
- Whenever a new hazardous chemical is introduced, or when the hazard information regarding a currently used chemical changes or when the program elements change; and
- Whenever the program administrator or other management members determine through observation that retraining would be beneficial.

Training will consist of a(n):

- Overview of this program;
- Review of operations where hazardous chemicals are present;
- Location of the written hazard communication program, hazardous chemical list and SDS file;
- Methods and observations used to detect the presence or release of hazardous chemicals;
- Physical and health hazards of chemicals in the work area (Note: we will present categories of hazards and advise employees to review labels and SDS for chemical specific information);
- Measures that employees are required to take to protect themselves from hazards including: procedures, work practices, emergency procedures and personal protective equipment requirements; and
- Explanation of the labeling system and how to read an SDS so that this information can be used appropriately by all personnel.

Non-Routine Tasks

Whenever a non-routine job involving work with hazardous chemicals is required, special training will be provided for all affected employees prior to the job. The training will include:

- Hazardous chemicals to be used in the non-routine task;
- Protective measure required to perform the work safely;
- Emergency procedures; and
- An opportunity to ask questions or ask for additional information

Contractors

Contractors who will bring hazardous chemicals into our facility must:

- Provide the program administrator with a list and an SDS for each hazardous chemical that will be used in our facility;
- Maintain a copy of the SDS for each approved chemical on site;
- Not bring chemicals into our facility unless approved by the program administrator; and
- Comply with all provisions of the Hazard Communication Standard that is applicable to their company.

Stevens reserves the right to refuse the use of chemicals based upon our evaluation. We also reserve the right to terminate the use of chemicals at any time based upon variable conditions within our facility.

Contractors will be provided the following information whenever their work location could bring them into contact with our hazardous chemicals.

- The hazardous chemicals that they may be exposed to while performing the specified work and how to obtain a copy of appropriate SDS
- Necessary job precautions to work safely within the proximity of the chemicals involved.

Recordkeeping

Records pertaining to the hazard communication program will be maintained by EHS.



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