



## SAFETY DATA SHEETS QUICK REFERENCE

### What the Safety Data Sheet (SDS) tells you:

SDS's provides you with the information you need to know to protect yourself from exposure to a particular hazardous chemical, under normal conditions of use, as well as during emergencies.

As of June 1, 2015, SDSs are required 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; manufacturer or distributor name, address, phone number; emergency phone number; recommended use; restrictions on use.
- **Section 2, Hazard(s) identification** includes all hazards regarding the chemical; required label elements.
- **Section 3, Composition/information on ingredients** includes information on chemical ingredients; trade secret claims.
- **Section 4, First-aid measures** includes important symptoms/ effects, acute, delayed; required treatment.
- **Section 5, Fire-fighting measures** lists suitable extinguishing techniques, equipment; chemical hazards from fire.
- **Section 6, Accidental release measures** lists emergency procedures; protective equipment; proper methods of containment and cleanup.
- **Section 7, Handling and storage** lists precautions for safe handling and storage, including incompatibilities.
- **Section 8, Exposure controls/personal protection** lists OSHA's Permissible Exposure Limits (PELs); Threshold Limit Values (TLVs); appropriate engineering controls; personal protective equipment (PPE).
- **Section 9, Physical and chemical properties** lists the chemical's characteristics.
- **Section 10, Stability and reactivity** lists chemical stability and possibility of hazardous reactions.
- **Section 11, Toxicological information** includes routes of exposure; related symptoms, acute and chronic effects; numerical measures of toxicity.
- Section 12, Ecological information
- Section 13, Disposal considerations
- Section 14, Transport information
- Section 15, Regulatory information
- **Section 16, Other information**, includes the date of preparation or last revision.

### Where to Find the SDS:

Regulations require SDSs to be kept where they are accessible to workers, while they are working. They may be stored in three ring binders or electronically. Visit the EH&S web site to access SDS application <http://ehs.harvard.edu/programs/hazard-communication>. If you are interested in obtaining more in-depth health and safety information about chemicals you are working with, contact Environmental Health & Safety at 617-432-1720 (Longwood) or 617-495-2060 (Cambridge/Allston).