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 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 EHS web site to access SDS application [http://ehs.harvard.edu/programs/hazard-communication](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 432-1720 (Longwood) or 495-2060 (Cambridge/Allston)