



# READING A SAFETY DATA SHEET

Safety Data Sheets (SDS) are organized by priority of information. On every SDS sheet, Sections 1-6 provide the information that will be most relevant in emergency situations, Sections 7-10 provide information regarding safe handling and storage, and Sections 11-16 contain specialized, technical information about the product.

The following is an overview of the information found in each section of a Safety Data Sheet:

## Section 1: Identification

Contains the chemicals' official name, aliases, name and contact information of the supplier, and a number for 24-hour emergency service

## Section 2: Hazards Identification

Contains pictograms, hazard classification (flammable solid, gas under pressure, etc.), hazard statements (harmful if inhaled, heating may cause fire, etc.), signal words (warning or danger), and safety precautions such as "keep away from heat" and "do not breathe vapor"

## Section 3: Composition/Information on Ingredients

Contains technical details on chemical composition and common names and synonyms

## Section 4: First-Aid Measures

Organized by the method of exposure, includes instructions for first aid (do/do not induce vomiting, rinse skin for 15-20 minutes), and will indicate whether EMS is required

## Section 5: Fire Fighting Measures

Contains what extinguishing agents are appropriate, and new hazards created when burned such as "toxic smoke"

## Section 6: Accidental Release Measures

Contains emergency procedures and safety precautions for spills or leaks as well as recommended cleaning materials and the method for cleaning up the substance

## Section 7: Handling and Storage

Precautions when working with substances and safe storing conditions such as "keep away from ignition sources" and "store in a cool location"

## Section 8: Exposure Controls/Personal Protection

Contains PPE Requirements, ventilation requirements, and how much exposure is safe

## Section 9: Physical and Chemical Properties

Contains what the substance looks and smells like, and boiling and flash point information

## Section 10: Stability and Reactivity

Contains how the product will react with other chemicals and conditions

## Section 11: Toxicology Information

Contains the adverse effects on living things, how toxic the substance is, symptoms of exposure, and how it can get into the body

## Section 12: Ecological Information

Explains how the material behaves when released, how long it remains once released, and what effect it has on the environment

## Section 13: Disposal Considerations

Explains the spill cleanup process, precautions during disposal, and the effects of disposal

## Section 14: Transport Information

Contains hazard categories and safety precautions

## Section 15: Regulatory Information

Contains regulations that apply to the product

## Section 16: Other Information

Contains information about how and when the SDS was prepared and last revised