

WEEKLY SAFETY MEETING

FOR THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY

© Safety Meeting Outlines Box 700, Frankfort, IL 60423 815-464-0200 No. 28 Vol. 20 Week of July

Company Name _____ Job Name _____ Date _____

HAZARD COMMUNICATION

The Hazard Communication Standard [29 CFR 1926.59 or 1910.1200] has been around for eight years, and yet it remains one of the most frequently cited OSHA standards. Many chemicals and other substances which we use are inherently hazardous. This standard (also known as The Right to Know Standard) was developed to help make you aware of these hazards and explain how to work with these materials safely. The HazCom Standard set requirements with which all producers of hazardous chemicals or materials, and your employer, must comply. These requirements include: evaluating the hazard, using warning labels, supplying MSDS's, employee training, and having a written program.

Why do you need to know about chemical hazards? The answer is that millions of workers are exposed to a wide variety of these hazardous chemicals everyday. Exposure or contact with some of them can threaten your health and safety, unless you are trained to recognize the hazard and take the proper measures to protect yourself.

Manufacturers are required to identify all the physical and health hazards associated with any material or product they produce. They report these hazards by attaching warning labels to every container of chemicals, and by sending an MSDS to every company to whom their material is shipped. Warning labels must give the name of the material and list any physical and/or health hazards. This information can be in words, symbols, or pictures. Your first line of protection is to make sure you read the label before using any chemical. MSDS's must be readily available and should be read if you are not familiar with the product. The MSDS will provide you with the manufacturer's name, address, phone number, and both the common name and the chemical name of the product. It also lists first aid information, what to do if there is a fire, and any reactivity hazards. You will also find safe exposure limits.

The HazCom Standard also requires your employer to develop a Written Program, and to provide employee training. A HazCom training program should stress what you need to know and do to protect yourself. A list of all hazardous chemicals being used on the job must be kept on site. Smart workers are safe workers because they know what they're working with and how to protect themselves. Practice safe work habits when using any chemical.

**When working with chemicals, be informed,
use personal protective equipment, and
know emergency procedures.**

SAFETY REMINDERS

Special Topics For Your Project _____

Employee Safety Recommendations _____

Reviewed M.S.D.S. # _____ Subject: _____

Meeting Attended By _____

Supervisors Signature _____