

Welcome to the Hard Hat Training Series!



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Welcome to the Hard Hat Training Series. Today you will learn about safety principles as they relate to Hazard Communication. We will strive to provide information that will increase your knowledge and make you a safer worker.



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Before we begin, let's talk briefly about what Hazard Communication is. At its most basic, hazard communication, or HazCom, is the method by which manufacturers, distributors, importers and employers communicate the hazards associated with any chemicals that employees will be working with or around. Every employee has a right to know what hazards they could potentially be exposed to; how to recognize those hazards; and what to do in case a hazardous situation arises.



On that note, there is a big difference between knowing, or having access to information, and truly understanding what that information means and how to apply it in your workplace. With that in mind, the HazCom standard was originally known as the “right to know” law. But there was no rhyme or reason to its system for labeling, leading to inconsistencies and confusion.

Knowing vs understanding

- ❑ KNOW = Factual Knowledge which is locked in time, place or situation.
- ❑ UNDERSTAND = Conceptual Understanding which transfers through time, across cultures, and across situations.



Because of the need to help workers not just know but understand, the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labeling of Chemicals (GHS) was adopted in 2012. As a result, the new hybrid standard, also referred to as HazCom2012 or the “right to understand” law, has new requirements designed to help employees develop a better understanding of chemicals, as well as the hazards surrounding them.

Did you know?

The Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labeling of Chemicals (GHS) helps chemical manufacturers and consumers all over the globe be in sync (or harmonized) with each other's classification and labeling systems. This makes the international sale of chemicals easier and safer.

GHS

The
Globally Harmonized System
 of Classification and Labeling of Chemicals



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These new requirements include the classification, categorization, and labeling of chemicals in a clear and formatted way. We will discuss this in more detail later on in the presentation.



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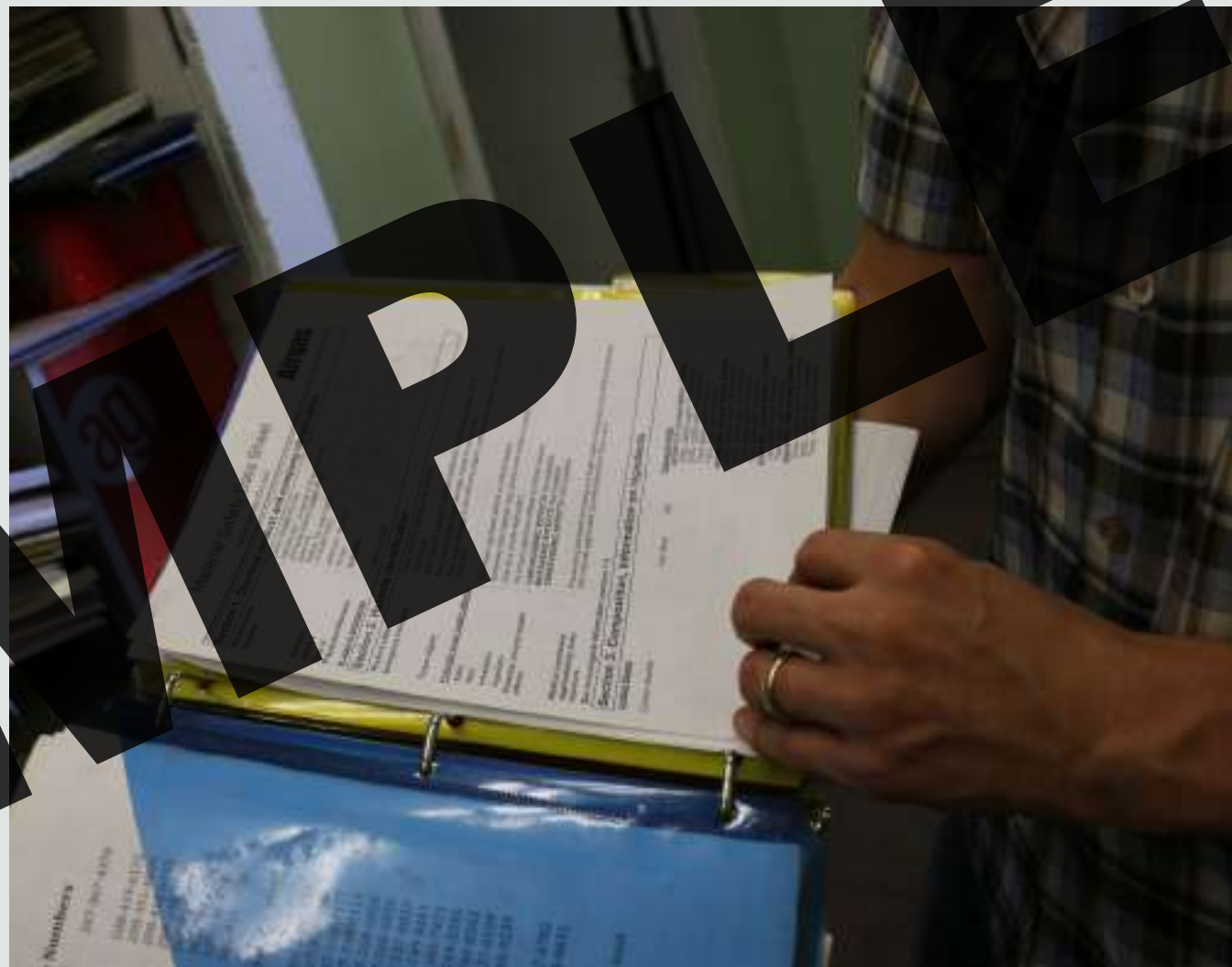
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We will also talk about the required Safety Data Sheets (SDS), previously referred to as MSDS sheets, as well as their specific sections and the information that should be included therein.



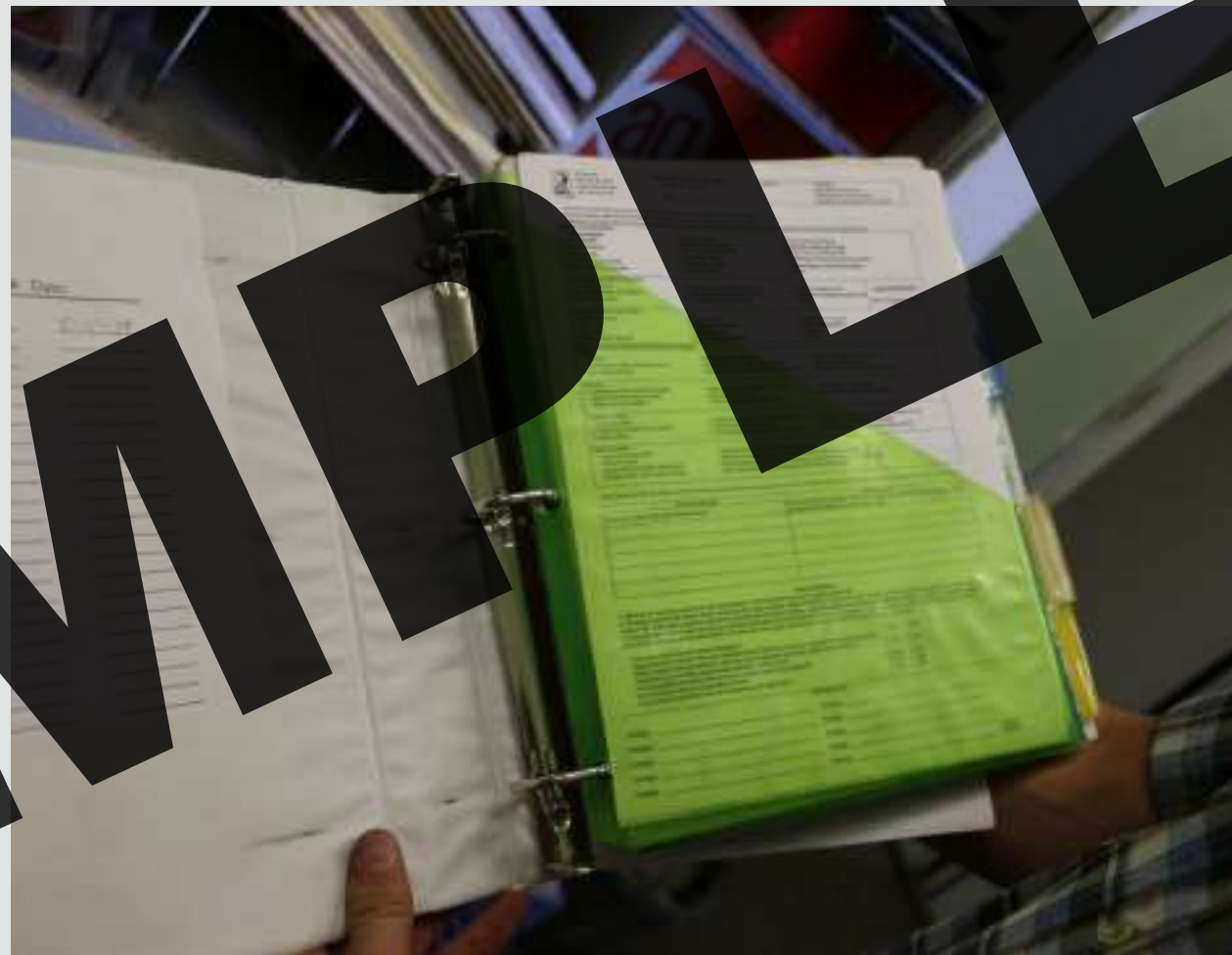
We will explain hazardous chemical labeling, including applicable requirements for both shipping and onsite labels, and detail the elements of a label, namely:

- Manufacturer or importer Identification
- Product Identifier
- Signal Word
- Hazard Statements
- Precautionary Statements
- Pictograms (HCS and DOT)



We will discuss the importance of training and creating a hazard communication program, as well as the necessity of wearing appropriate PPE.

And finally, to reiterate the importance of training, we will look at real accident case studies and discuss what went wrong.



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At the conclusion of this training, you will be better prepared to handle the chemicals in your workplace, communicate their dangers on a more chemical-specific level, and avoid altogether the hazards associated with their use.



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STANDARDS

- 29 CFR 1910.1200, Toxic and Hazardous Substances, HazCom for General Industry, Agriculture
- 29 CFR 1926.59, HazCom for Construction
- 29 CFR 1915.1200, HazCom for Shipyards
- 29 CFR 1917.1(a)(2)(vi), for Marine Terminals
- 29 CFR 1918.1(b)(4), for Longshoring
- 29 CFR 1926.20-21, on General Training, Education

OSHA Act of 1970, 5(a)(1): "each employer shall furnish to each of his employees...a place of employment which is free from recognized hazards that are causing or are likely to cause death or serious harm to his employees."

These are some of the main standards concerning Hazard Communication, training, and employer responsibility. Federally speaking, in some form or another, most of these standards refer back to 1910.1200, the General Industry HazCom standard. But many states have additional standards, as do some industries. We have provided these as a guide, but it is your responsibility to know all federal, local and company rules that apply to your job site and situation.



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Regarding these standards, it is common to hear workers state that they have already been informed about hazard communication and, therefore, do not need additional training. However, with the recent merge of GHS and OSHA standards, it is required that all workers be re-trained in order to fully understand the changes. Additionally, no matter how long you've been on the job, it is important to remember that refresher training should take place periodically and as changes occur.



More specifically...



Did you know?

Regulations specify that workers dealing with hazardous chemicals *must* receive training:

- Before they are first assigned duties relating to working with or around chemicals, or before there is a change in assigned duties.
- Whenever a new chemical is introduced into the workplace.
- Whenever there is a change in operations that presents a hazard or potential exposure about which training has not occurred.
- In case of an accident or anytime an employee is injured or nearly injured during operations
- Or whenever an employer deems necessary or has reason to believe there are deviations from the HazCom program and procedures or that there are inadequacies in an employee's knowledge or application of those procedures.



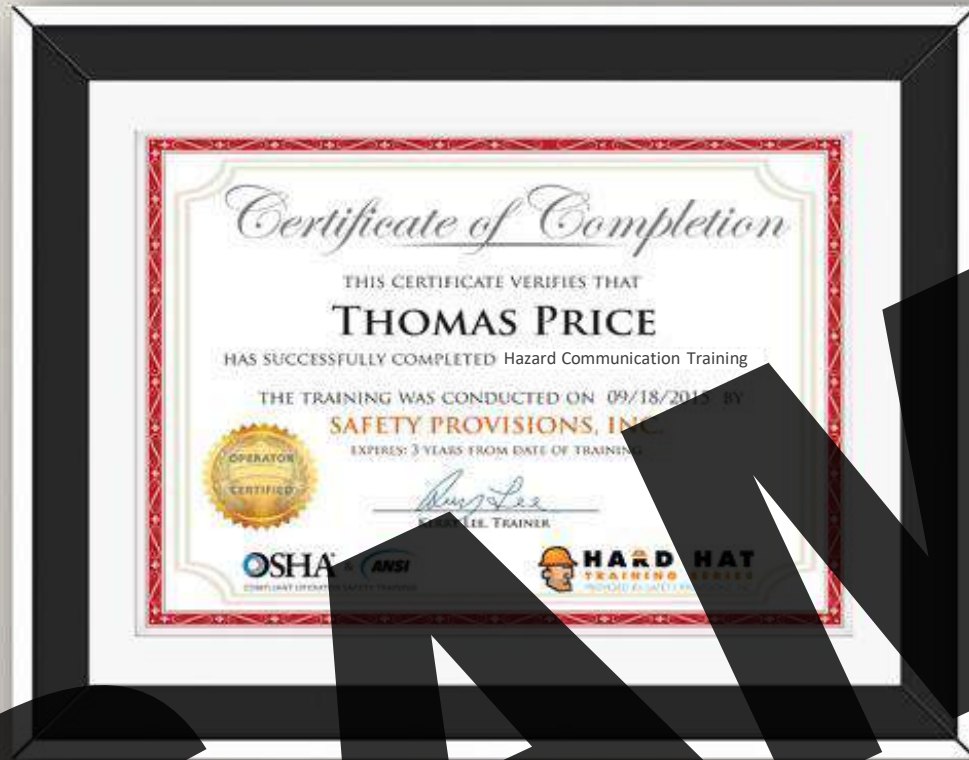
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The extent of training is to be determined by the employer, but at the very least it should include classroom instruction followed by a written and practical examination that prove continued competency. Initial training and refresher training, as well as any written and practical evaluations, must be properly documented. While wallet cards are not typically required by federal law, many companies and worksites do require onsite proof that workers have been trained.

SAFETY DATA SHEETS

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