

What Is A Safety Data Sheet?

The Safety Data Sheet or SDS is a reference document created by the chemical manufacturer. It is where you go for more information on the hazardous product.

Before you work with a hazardous product you should be able to answer:

What is the product?

Section 1: Product Identification

What are the hazards?

Section 2: Hazard Identification

How do I work with this safely?

Section 7: Handling and Storage

What do I do in an emergency?

Section 4, 5, 6: First Aid, Fire Fighting and Accidental Release Measures

The SDS Is Written In A Consistent 16-Section Format

1 Product Name

- Other means of identification (e.g., synonyms, product codes).
- Recommended use and restrictions
- Supplier’s name, address and phone number(s)
- Emergency telephone number

2 Hazard Identification

- Hazard classification
- Hazard pictogram(s)
- Signal word
- Hazard statement(s) and precautionary statement(s)
- Other hazards not classified

3 Information on Ingredients

- Chemical name
- Common name and synonyms
- CAS registry number and any unique identifiers
- Trade secrets
- Chemical name of impurities, stabilizing solvents and additives
- Concentration if product is a mixture

4 First Aid Measures

- First aid measures based on exposure method – Inhalation, Ingestion, Skin and Eye Contact
- Most important acute or delayed symptoms or effects
- Indication of immediate medical attention and special treatment

5 Fire Fighting Measures

- Appropriate firefighting techniques
- Suitable and unsuitable extinguishing material
- Chemical hazards from the fire
- PPE and special precautions for firefighting

6 Accidental Release Measures

- Personal precautions
- Protective equipment
- Emergency procedures
- Methods and materials for containment and cleanup

7 Handling and Storage

- Precautions for safe handling
- Conditions for safe storage, including any incompatibility

8 Exposure Controls & Protection

- Appropriate engineering controls
- Recommended PPE– eye and face, skin, and respiratory protection
- Occupational exposure limits for the product and the source of their values

9 Physical & Chemical Properties

- Appearance: physical state or colour
- Odour and Odour Threshold
- pH
- Initial boiling point and boiling range
- Melting point and freezing point
- Flash point
- Evaporation rate
- Flammability, for a solid and gas
- Upper and lower flammability or explosive limits
- Vapour pressure & density
- Relative density
- Solubility
- Partition coefficient
- Auto-ignition temperature
- Decomposition temperature
- Viscosity

10 Stability and Reactivity

- Reactivity
- Chemical stability
- Possibility of hazardous reactions
- Conditions to avoid, including static discharge, shock or vibration
- Incompatible materials
- Hazardous decomposition products

11 Toxicological Information

- Delayed and immediate effects, and chronic health effects from short-term and long-term exposure
- Symptoms related to physical, chemical, and toxicological characteristics
- Information on likely routes of exposure
- Numerical measures of toxicity (ATE), if available

12 Ecological Information

- Ecotoxicity (air, soil, or water)
- Short term or long-term threat to the environment

13 Disposal Considerations

- Information on safe handling for disposal and methods of disposal, including any contaminated packaging

14 Transport Information

- UN Number & Proper Shipping Name
- Transportation Hazard Class
- Packing group
- Environmental hazards
- Special transportation provisions
- Bulk transport details

15 Regulatory Information

- Safety, health, and environmental regulations detailed by federal and by state/province/ local body

16 Other Information

- Date of latest revision