How to Start a New Hazard Communication Program

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Overview

- ▶ Who to involve
- ► Four components of HazCom
 - ► Training
 - ► Chemical Inventory
 - ► Safety Data Sheets
 - **►** Labeling
- Laboratory HazCom Considerations



Who Should help with Development and Implementation

- Research and Development
- ► EHS Department
- Product Safety and Regulatory
- ▶ Plant Safety Team and Workers
- Sales and Marketing
- Legal



- ▶ Who is in charge of the program?
- ▶ Who will be in charge of implementation?

Company Culture



- ► OSHA indicates that Hazard Communication issues is one of their top reasons for citations.
- ▶ It is essential that you get the whole company to understand the importance of maintaining a strong compliant hazard communication program.

Hazard Communication Written program

➤ Should be based on OSHA Hazard Communication Standard (29 CFR 1910.1200) to identify and communicate hazards in the workplace.

Components of a Hazard Communication Program

- ► Training
- ► Chemical Inventory
- ► Safety Data Sheets
- ► Labeling



Training



- ► Employees need to be trained on the hazardous chemicals they will be working with both before initial assignment and when new hazards are introduced.
- ► Training items include:
 - ► Appropriate PPE
 - ► Hazards of the chemicals
 - ► Location of SDS or where to learn more about the chemicals

Training Compliance Concerns

- Management of training records
 - ► Where are they kept?
 - ▶ Who is responsible for the records?



- New Chemicals
- Non-routine task training
- Contractors/non-employees



Chemical Inventory



- ► A list of all the hazardous chemicals in the workplace
- ▶ Ideas:
 - ▶ A complete inventory
 - ►Then inventory of the work area
 - ► Each storage location can have its own inventory
 - ► Maintenance section inventory
 - ► Keep a SDS for each chemical with the inventory

Compliance concerns



- Maintaining the inventory
- Removing chemicals no longer in use
- Keeping accurate volume of each chemical
- Obtaining a SDS with new chemicals



Safety Data Sheets

- Who is responsible for the SDS?
- Authoring Considerations
 - ► How should you complete your SDS? Software System?
 - ▶ Do you have someone with all of the knowledge to complete the various sections?
 - ►GHS 16 sections
 - ► Classification of the product
 - ► Have you been provided enough information on the product or do you need to conduct studies:
 - ► GHS classification
 - ► Transport classification

Maintaining Accurate SDS

- Making sure you have all the raw material SDSs before use
 - ▶ Who is responsible for this
- Maintaining a copy of all SDSs in workplace
 - ► Electronic/paper?
 - ► How often will you audit?
- Maintaining raw materials from different suppliers-how do you ensure customers reference correct SDS

Compliance concerns



- Keeping up with developing information and updating the SDS timely matter.
- ► Concerns about different jurisdictions and the various ways GHS has been adopted.
- ▶ Concerns over providing a complete SDS when the product is in development or not a lot of information is known.
- ► How will you provide your SDS to Customers?

Labeling

- ► A label must be on the immediate container of every hazardous container.
 - ► Product HazCom labels
 - ► Secondary Container labels process
 - ► NFPA labels
 - ► Shipping Labels (DOT, IMDG, IATA)
 - ► Stationary Container labeling
- ▶ Who is responsible for labeling?

Compliance Concerns



- Shipping placards different from GHS pictograms
 - ➤ Training on placarding for DOT shipping container is required if the shipping container is also used in the workplace.
 - ► Consistent labeling practices
- Updating labels when new information is available







Laboratories



- ► Labs that are a part of production for example QC labs are considered part of OSHA HAZCOM Standard (29 CFR 1910.1200) and thus all OSHA HAZCOM regulations apply.
- ► Labs for research and development where they are separate from manufacturing do not fall under OSHA HAZCOM rather they fall under the lab standard of (29 CFR 1910.1450).
 - ► Chemical hygiene program applies
- ▶ All labs should have all chemicals labeled and SDS available for all chemicals.