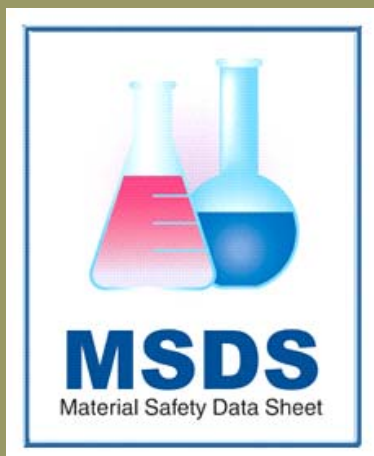


Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS)

(January 2009 Revision)



*EH&S Fact Sheet
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A Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) is a document that provides the end user critical information about a specific substance in terms of potential hazards (physical, health, fire, reactivity, and environmental), toxicological properties, safe use and handling, and compatible storage. The OSHA Hazard Communication Standard requires that chemical manufacturers provide MSDSs for each of their products according to the criteria described below:

1. Chemical name (IUPAC) and synonyms
2. Physical Data (flash point, boiling point, vapor density, appearance and odor, etc.)
3. Fire and Explosion Data (flashpoint, autoignition temperature, recommended extinguishing media, etc.)
4. Health Effects and First aid (specific organs or system in the body affected by overexposure)
5. Reactivity Data (incompatibilities with other chemicals and conditions that may cause instability)
6. Person Protective Equipment (PPE) and Emergency Procedures for Accidental Spill or Release

The USC research community may acquire MSDSs of chemicals currently logged in the USC on-line chemical inventory database by accessing the On-line USC MSDS binder from the EH&S webpage.

To obtain an MSDS:

- Go to the EHS Website (<http://capsnet.usc.edu/EHS>) and click on MSDSs under Quick links.
- Simply provide a product name and/or Manufacturer in order to acquire the MSDS of the specific chemical of your interest.
- If you do not find the MSDS you require, you may perform an advanced search by providing the same product name and manufacturer in the Search  box at the bottom.

In the event that you cannot access the web during an emergency, you may access MSDSs via the Faxback system by calling: 1-888-362-7416.

Hard copy MSDSs are also recommended for the laboratory as a back-up resource in the event that electronic access is interrupted.

EH&S Fact Sheets are intended for facilitating team discussions in your department. Post the monthly topic on your departmental bulletin board.