

# The Safety Zone

*A publication designed to recognize safety in the workplace*

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## Importance of a Safety Committee

The recognition of the Safety Committee in the workplace is an important one. A well-organized safety committee can assist in maintaining a compliant, hazard-free workplace.

Key elements of a structured safety committee include:

Departmental representatives who understand the importance of their role as well as the ability to recognize potential hazards in the workplace.

Maintain a vigilant role in identifying unsafe work practices.

Review and Report concerns to the general Safety Committee.

Ensure that the employees they represent maintain safe workplace practices.

Maintain open communications with represented employees.



# The Components of a Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS)

The Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) is required by federal and state regulations for each chemical product manufactured. The MSDS details specific conditions and properties of chemical substances within a product. The purpose of the Material Safety Data Sheet is to inform the chemical product user of safe use, handling and storage, along with specific spill cleanup and disposal methods.

There are several types of MSDS forms which a manufacturer may use. The most common form is one which is available through the U.S. Department of Labor (see appendix A) under the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA). This detailed form allows for extensive product information in relationship to OSHA criteria. The next most common form is one that is company-developed (see appendix B) and is distributed to the end users who utilize the company's product.

A Material Safety Data Sheet will contain the following information or categories:

1. Manufacturer's Identification
2. Hazardous Ingredients/Identity Information
3. Physical/ Chemical Characteristics
4. Fire and Explosion Hazard Data
5. Reactivity Data
6. Health Hazard Data
7. Precautions for Safe Handling and Use
8. Control Measures



***The Compliance Zone offers a complete program which includes an MSDS Reference Guide as well as a PowerPoint educational program. Contact us for further details.***

# Test your Safety Smarts

**1. What does the term “PPE” stand for in the context of workplace safety?**

- a) Personal Protective Equipment
- b) Prevention of Potential Emergencies
- c) Protective Product Evaluation
- d) Primary Prevention Exercises

**2. What should you do if you notice a hazard in the workplace?**

- a) Ignore it and continue working
- b) Report it to your supervisor or manager
- c) Share it on social media
- d) Take a photo and post it online

**3. Why is it important to keep work areas clean and organized?**

- a) It looks better for visitors
- b) It improves productivity
- c) It prevents accidents and injuries
- d) It makes the boss happy

**4. What should you do if you encounter a fire in the workplace?**

- a) Panic and run
- b) Attempt to extinguish the fire yourself
- c) Activate the fire alarm and evacuate
- d) Continue working and ignore the fire

**Answers**

1. a.      2. B      3. C      4. c





