



SAFETY MESSAGE

Personal Safety is our #1 priority

Your Right to Know....

- **The U.S. chemical manufacturing industry and federal government developed a chemical identification system, which requires that a descriptive paper document accompany every chemical shipped, used or stored.**

Understanding The MSDS, Part 1

Section 1-Chemical Identity

- Identification of the chemical including manufacturer, address and phone number.
- In cases involving chemical trade secrets, that chemical name will not be identified.
- Health hazard data will always be included. HMIS information.

Section 2- Ingredients

- List of all hazardous ingredients contained in the chemical. Ingredients are referred by their common name and the CAS#.

CAS#-Chemical Abstract Service Number. All chemicals have a CAS#

- PEL- Permissible Exposure Limits
- TLV- Threshold Limit Value

The PEL and the TLV levels refer to the quantity of airborne concentrate individuals may be safely exposed to in an 8 hour period.

Section 3- Properties

- The physical properties of the chemical. These properties detail how the chemical will react in the working environment.
- Specific Gravity of a liquid determines whether a chemical will sink or float in water.
- The vapor density of a gas refers to whether the chemical will float or sink in air.

Section 4- Flammability

- **The key is the flash point**, which is defined as the temperature at which a substance releases enough flammable vapor to ignite.
- This section also, indicates the appropriate method to extinguish the specific chemical and any precautions that must be taken.



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Understanding The MSDS, Part 2

Section 5- Reactivity

- Reactivity refers to the stability of the chemical and how it reacts with other substances. Examples, water, temperature, sunlight.

Section 6- Health Risks

- Entry routes into the body, signs and symptoms of exposure, and duration of the effects.
- Any special first aid procedures and precautions are listed.

Section 7- Safe Handling

- The proper corrective action in the event of a leak or spill will be provided.
- The proper method of disposal of the chemical.

Section 8- Protective Equipment

- The necessary equipment needed to safely handle a chemical.
- The equipment may include protection for the skin, respiratory system, eyes, hands and feet.
- OSHA requires that this PPE equipment be provided to all exposed to the chemical.

Valuable Information

1. To find chemical compound descriptions (CAS#) go to:
<http://www.toxnet.nlm.nih.gov/>

In the enter terms box, type in the CAS#. Hit the search key. Then, go to the Toxline information for chemical description information.

2. Product MSDS information, try MSDS Solutions. MSDS Solutions is a free product informational search engine.
<http://msdssolutions.com/>