



GREATER LOWELL
TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL

THE MASSACHUSETTS RIGHT TO KNOW LAW



GREATER LOWELL
TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL

The Massachusetts Right to Know Law

MGL Ch. 111F

Protects Public Employees by assuring
the provision of Information on Chemical
Hazards in the Workplace

Private vs. Public Employers

Private
Employers

US DOL OSHA (1988)
Hazard Communication Standard

Public
Employers

MA DOS (1984)
MGL Ch. 111F Right To Know Law



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Labeling Requirements

- All containers of more than 5 pounds or more than 1 gallon containing toxic or hazardous substances or >1 shift/1 person
- Name must match SDS
- Health hazard warnings(target organs health effects)
- Physical hazard warnings (flammable, corrosive, etc.)



NFPA National Fire Protection Association



HMIS Hazardous Material Identification System

Chemical Name	
HEALTH	0
FLAMMABILITY	0
PHYSICAL HAZARD	0
PERSONAL PROTECTION	0

Higher the number the more dangerous.



Safety Data Sheets (SDS)

Employers are required to:

- **Maintain Safety Data Sheets (SDS's) for each hazardous substance in the workplace.**
- **Keep SDSs for a minimum of thirty years from the end of use of the chemical,**
- **Make them available to employees or the State within four working days of a written request.**

Note: POs require SDSs

Safety Data Sheets (SDS) 2

- Manufacturer's name
- Chemical name
- Percentage of hazardous ingredients
- Reactivity
 - stability and incompatibility
- Physical Data
 - boiling point, flash point., vapor information, water issues and odor
- Fire and Explosion hazard
 - any unusual fire and explosion Information
 - extinguishing media
 - special fire fighting procedures
- Health hazard data
 - threshold limit value
 - effects of overexposure
 - emergency first aid procedures

Safety Data Sheets (SDS) ³

- **Special protection information**
- **Personal protective equipment (PPE) including the use of:**
 - Goggles or face shields
 - Gloves
 - Aprons
 - Breathing apparatus
 - Any special precautions which may apply



Safety Data Sheets (SDS) ⁴

SDS's should not be relied upon for information on waste disposal. Most merely state that all federal, state, and local laws must be obeyed for waste disposal which does not provide proper or sufficient information.

The Massachusetts Hazardous Waste Regulations (310 CMR 30.00) must be consulted whenever there is a question concerning waste disposal.





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