



Workplace Hazardous Materials Information System 2015 (WHMIS)

Exposure to hazardous materials can cause, or contribute to, negative health effects. WHMIS is Canada's hazard communication standard for products that present a biohazard, chemical hazard, acute hazard or chronic health hazard. It is a comprehensive plan for providing information on the safe use of hazardous materials used in Canadian workplaces. Information is provided by means of product labels, safety data sheets (SDS) and worker education programs.

Classification – Hazard Classes and Pictograms

Familiarize yourself with the following pictograms, which are associated with the hazard classes and categories.



Safety Data Sheet (SDS):

- A Safety Data Sheet is a document that provides specific hazard information, safe handling information, and emergency procedures for a hazardous product.
- Familiarize yourself with the location and content of all SDS pertaining to chemicals you will be handling.
- When obtaining or updating SDS, start by asking the product supplier for the latest version. It is the responsibility of the product supplier to provide SDS for each product they carry.
- Inform your supervisor if the SDS is older than 3 years.

Education/Implementation:

- Participate in training programs to understand the potential hazards, the possible methods of exposure (ingestion, absorption, or inhalation), and the safe work procedures. Use this information to work safely with hazardous materials. A good rule of thumb is to be retrained every three years. If the hazardous products used at your workplace change or there is a change in the procedures on how to use, store or handle the hazardous products, you must be retrained in the changes.
- Learn which hazardous products you will be working with or in close proximity to.
- Understand the content, significance and location of labels and SDS.
- Follow safe work procedures for the safe use, storage, handling and disposal of a hazardous product. Understand what to do in case of an escape of a hazardous product, or in an emergency involving a hazardous product.
- Wear appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) when handling chemicals (verify with the SDS).

Do not work with the product, unless you can answer the following four questions:

1. Where can I obtain more information?
2. What are the hazards of the product?
3. How do I protect myself?
4. What should I do in case of an emergency?

Health PEI's WHMIS training can be found: https://src.healthpei.ca/sites/src.healthpei.ca/files/OCHSW/HPEI_WHIMIS_Presentation_%20FINAL_September2023.pdf

Source: <https://www.ccohs.ca/>

DATE: _____

SAFETY TALK LEAD BY: _____

FACILITY: _____

DEPARTMENT: _____

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

WHAT CAN BE DONE TO MINIMIZE THE RISKS OF ACCIDENTS WITH HAZARDOUS MATERIAL?

WHAT ARE SOME HAZARDS WORKING WITH HAZARDOUS MATERIAL?

ARE THERE ANY HAZARDOUS MATERIAL IN YOUR WORK AREA?

EMPLOYEE CONCERNS & IDEAS FOR IMPROVEMENT:

EMPLOYEES PRESENT:

FOLLOW UP ON CONCERNS:

If you have any feedback on the Safety Talks program or a suggestion for a Safety Talk, please contact a member of the Wellness & Safety Team or email healthpeihr@ihis.org.

Safety Talks can be found on the Staff Resource Centre at: <https://src.healthpei.ca/safety-talks>