

Appendix A: Definitions

Article: A manufactured item: (1) which is formed to a specific shape or design during manufacture; (2) which has end use functions(s) dependent in whole or in part upon its shape or design during end use; and (3) which does not release, or otherwise result in exposure to a hazardous chemical under normal conditions of use or in a reasonably foreseeable emergency resulting from workplace operations.

Classification: The process of identifying the relevant data regarding the hazards of a chemical; reviewing those data to ascertain hazards associated with the chemical; and deciding whether the chemical will be classified as hazardous, and the degree of hazard where appropriate, by comparing the data with the criteria for health and physics hazards.

Container: Any bag, barrel, bottle, box, can, cylinder, drum, reaction vessel, storage tank, tank truck or the like that contains a hazardous chemical. For purposes of this program, pipes or piping systems are not considered to be containers.

Emergency: Any potential occurrence such as, but not limited to, equipment failure, rupture of containers, or failure of control equipment, which may or does result in a release of a hazardous chemical into the workplace.

Employee: A worker who may be exposed to hazardous chemicals under normal operating conditions or in foreseeable emergencies. Workers such as office workers or bank tellers who encounter hazardous chemicals only in non-routine, isolated instances are not covered.

Exposure or exposed: Any situation arising from work operation where an employee may ingest, inhale, absorb through the skin or eyes, or otherwise come into contact with a hazardous chemical.

Hazard category: The division of criteria within each hazard class.

Hazard class: The nature of the physical, health or environmental hazard.

Hazard classification: An evaluation of chemicals to determine the hazard classes, and where appropriate, the category of each class that applies to the chemical being classified.

Hazard not otherwise classified (HNOC): An adverse physical or health effect identified through evaluation of scientific evidence during the classification process that does not meet the specified criteria for the physical and health hazard classes addressed in this program.

Hazard statement: A statement assigned to a hazard class and category that describes the nature of the hazards of a chemical, including, where appropriate, the degree of hazard.

Hazardous chemical: Any chemical which is a physical hazard or a health hazard, a simple asphyxiant, combustible dust, pyrophoric gas, or hazard not otherwise classified.

Health hazard: A chemical which is classified as posing one of the following hazardous effects: acute toxicity (any route of exposure); skin corrosion or irritation; serious eye damage or eye irritation; respiratory or skin sensitization; germ cell mutagenicity; carcinogenicity; reproductive toxicity; specific target organ toxicity (single or repeated exposure); or aspiration hazard.

Immediate use: The hazardous chemical will be under the control of and used only by the person who transfers it from a labeled container and only within the work shift in which it is transferred.

Label elements: The specified pictogram, hazard statement, signal word and precautionary statement for each hazard class and category.

Laboratory use of hazardous chemicals: means handling or use of such chemicals in which all of the following conditions are met:

- i. Chemical manipulations are carried out on a “laboratory scale;”
- ii. Multiple chemical procedures or chemicals are used;
- iii. The procedures involved are not part of a production process, nor in any way simulate a production process; and
- iv. Protective laboratory practices and equipment are available and in common use to minimize the potential for employee exposure to hazardous chemicals.

Physical hazard: A chemical that is classified as posing one of the following hazardous effects: explosive; flammable (gases, aerosols, liquids, or solids); oxidizer (liquid, solid or gas); self-reactive; pyrophoric (liquid or solid); self-heating; organic peroxide; corrosive to metal; gas under pressure; or in contact with water emits flammable gas.

Pictogram: A composition that may include a symbol plus other graphic elements, such as a border, background pattern, or color, that is intended to convey specific information about the hazards of a chemical.

Precautionary statement: A phrase that describes recommended measures that should be taken to minimize or prevent adverse effects resulting from exposure to a hazardous chemical, or from improper storage or handling.

Product identifier: The name or number used for a hazardous chemical on a label or in the SDS. It provides a unique means by which the user can identify the chemical. The product identifier used shall permit cross-references to be made among the list of hazardous chemicals required in the written hazard communication program, the label and the SDS.

Pyrophoric gas: A chemical in a gaseous state that will ignite spontaneously in air at a temperature of 130 degrees F (54.4 degrees C) or below.

Secondary (portable) container: Any container being used beyond the original manufacturer’s container in which the chemical was shipped. When a chemical is transferred from its original container to another container, the container transferred into is called a "secondary container." This may include, but is not limited to:

- i. Portable or working containers, such as flasks, beakers, small storage bottles, boxes, bags, metal cans, or buckets;
- ii. Storage containers that are created for distribution of smaller amounts of the chemical to students or colleagues;
- iii. Storage bottles that are created for solutions of the original chemical; or
- iv. Sample vials or sealable tubes.

Signal word: A word used to indicate the relative level of severity of hazard and alert the reader to a potential hazard on the label. The words 'Danger' and 'Warning' are used as signal words.

Simple asphyxiant: A substance or mixture that displaces oxygen in the ambient atmosphere, and can thus cause oxygen deprivation in those who are exposed, leading to unconsciousness and death.

Trade secret: Any confidential formula, pattern, process, device, information, or compilation of information which gives its user an opportunity to obtain a business advantage over competitors who do not know or use it. A trade secret shall not include chemical identity information which is readily discoverable through qualitative analysis.

Work area: A room or defined space in a workplace where hazardous chemicals are produced or used, and where employees are present.