

Occupational Safety and Health Administration



Occupational
Safety and Health
Administration

Overview of OSHA

- Created by Congress in 1970 under the “Occupational Safety and Health Act”
- Mission: “...to assure so far as possible every working man and woman in the Nation safe and healthful working conditions...”

OSHA's Jurisdiction

- **Nearly all private-sector employers and employees in the 50 states and U.S. territories**
- **Excludes self-employed, family farm workers and most government employees**

OSHA's Role in Developing Standards

- The Occupational Safety and Health Act

Section (2)(b)(3): “...by authorizing the Secretary of Labor to set mandatory occupational safety and health standards applicable to businesses affecting interstate commerce...”

OSHA's Role in Addressing Safety and Health Hazards

- Promulgate occupational safety and health standards
- Enforce OSHA standards and the “General Duty Clause”
- Provide guidance, outreach and compliance assistance

OSHA'S HAZARD COMMUNICATION STANDARD

29 CFR 1910.1200

A THREE-PRONGED SYSTEM



REQUIREMENTS: HAZARD DETERMINATION

- Manufacturers or importers must determine whether chemicals are health or physical hazards using available evidence.
- OSHA does not maintain a list of covered hazardous chemicals, but there is a “floor” of chemicals, which includes...

REQUIREMENTS: Floor List

- Chemicals regulated by OSHA in substance specific standards
- Chemicals listed in 29 CFR 1910.1000, Air Contaminants
- Chemicals listed in ACGIH's TLV booklet

REQUIREMENTS:

- Manufacturers must ensure that each container of hazardous chemicals leaving the workplace has
 - Label
 - MSDS

Hazard Determination

- No testing is required
- If testing is done, it must be done by using validated test methods
- The studies must be performed in a scientifically sound manner
- Must use all available information
 - Information for hazard determination can be obtained from existing literature in public domain.

Validated Study

- Test results from a validated study must be considered in Hazard Determination



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www.osha.gov