

SDS Glossary

Please note: JWD InfoLogistics Co., Ltd. does not take responsibility for the content of these definitions, nor does JWD endorse these as official definitions. The definitions of the terms are given for useful reference only.

Absolute

Chemical substance that is relatively free of impurities.

Absolute pressure

The total pressure within a vessel, pipe, etc., not offset by external atmospheric pressure.

Absorption

To take in and make a part of an existing whole. The penetration of a solid substance by a liquid as by capillary, osmotic, solvent or chemical action

ACGIH

American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists. An organization of professionals in governmental agencies or educational institutions engagement

ACGIH

ACGIH stands for American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists. The Threshold Limit Value (TLV) Committee and Ventilation Committee of th...

Acid

Any chemical which undergoes dissociation in water with the formation of hydrogen ions. Acids have a sour taste and may cause severe burns. They turn ...

Acid, Acidic

See pH

Acidosis

Condition of decreased alkalinity of the blood and tissues marked by sickly sweet breath, headache, nausea, vomiting, and visual disturbances; usually...

Acrid

Irritating and bitter.

Action level

Exposure level at which OSHA regulations to protect employees takes effect. Exposure at or above the action level is termed occupational exposure. Exp...

Active ingredient

Ingredient of a product that actually does what the product is designed to do. The remaining ingredients may be inert.

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Active Ingredient

An active ingredient is the part of a product which actually does what the product is designed to do. It is not necessarily the largest or most hazard...

Acute

Acute means sudden or brief. Acute can be used to describe either an exposure or a health effect. An acute exposure is a short-term exposure. Short-term

Acute effect

Adverse effect on a human or animal body, that takes place soon after exposure.

Acute lethality

Death of animals immediately or within 14 days after a single dose of or exposure to a toxic substance.

Acute toxicity

Adverse effects resulting from a single dose of or exposure to a substance.

Adenocarcinoma

A tumor with glandular (secreting) elements.

Adenosis

Any disease of a gland.

Adhesion

A union of two surfaces that are normally separate

Adsorb

Collect gas or liquid molecules on the surface of another material

Aerosol

Fine aerial suspension of liquid (mist, fog) or solid (dust, fume, smoke) particles small enough to be stable.

Aerosol

An aerosol is a collection of very small particles suspended in air. The particles can be liquid (mist) or solid (dust or fume). The term aerosol is a...

Agent

Any substance, force, radiation, organism, or influence that affects the body. Effects may be beneficial or injurious.

AIHA

AIHA stands for American Industrial Hygiene Association

Air-line respirator

A respirator that is connected to a compressed breathable air source by a hose of small diameter. The air is delivered continuously or intermittently...

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Air-purifying respirator

A respirator that uses chemicals to remove specific gases and vapors from the air or that uses a mechanical filter to remove particulate matter. An ai...

Alara

Acronym for "as low as reasonably achievable".

Alkali

Any chemical substance which forms soluble soaps with fatty acids. Alkalis are also referred to as bases. May cause severe burns to the skin. Alkalis...

Alkali, Alkaline

See pH.

Allegic reaction

Abnormal physiological response to chemical stimuli by a sensitive person.

Allegic respiratory reaction

Labored breathing, coughing, or gasping caused by inhaling a particular substance.

Allergic skin reaction

Reddening, swelling and/or itching of the skin following contact with a substance to which a person has become sensitized due to previous skin contact

Alopecia

Loss of hair

Ambient

Usual or surrounding conditions.

Amenorrhea

Absence of menstruation

Anorexia

Loss of the sense of smell.

Anoxia

Lack of oxygen from inspired air. ANSI: American National Standards Institute. A privately funded organization that identifies industrial/public nati...

ANSI

ANSI stands for the American National Standards Institute

Antidote

Remedy to relieve, prevent, or counteract the effects of a poison.

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Anuria

Absence or defective excretion of urine.

API

American Petroleum Institute is an organization of the petroleum industry.

Apnea

Breathing temporarily stopped.

Appearance

Physical state of a material.

Aquatic toxicity

Adverse effects on marine life that result from their being exposed to a toxic substance.

Aqueous

Water-based solution or suspension. Frequently, a gaseous compound dissolved in water.

Argyria

Local or generalized gray/blue-colored impregnation of the body tissue with silver.

Article

Manufactured item specifically shaped or formed with function dependent on shape or design. Does not release or result in exposure to a hazardous mate...

Asbestosis

Chronic lung disease caused by inhaling airborne asbestos fibers.

Asphyxia

Lack of oxygen and interference with the oxygenation of the blood. Can lead to unconsciousness.

Asphyxiant

Vapor or gas which causes unconsciousness or death by suffocation. Most simple asphyxiants are harmful to the body only when they become so concentrate

Aspiration hazard

Danger of drawing material into the lungs leading to an inflammatory response.

Asthma

Disease characterized by recurrent attacks of dyspnea, wheezing, and perhaps coughing caused by spasmodic contraction of the bronchiole in the lungs.

ASTM

American Society for Testing and Materials.

Asymptomatic

Neither causing nor exhibiting symptoms.

Ataxia

Loss of muscular coordination.

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Atmosphere (ATM)

Pressure measurement. One atmosphere (atm) = 14.7 lbs/sq in.

Atrophy

Wasting or diminution in the size of tissue, organs, or the entire body caused by lack of use.

Autoignition temperature

Minimum temperature which a substance must be heated without application of flame or spark to cause substance to ignite. Materials should not be heated...

Auto-ignition Temperature

The auto-ignition temperature is the lowest temperature at which a material begins to burn in air in the absence of a spark or flame. Many chemicals waste.

BACT - Best Available Control Technology

The best control technology that is available for each contaminant. This determination will be made by the Commissioner on a case-by-case basis taking...

BAL

British anti-lewisite. A name for the drug dimecaprol--a treatment for toxic inhalations.

Base

Substances that (usually) liberate OH anions when dissolved in water. Bases react with acids to form salts and water. Bases have a pH greater than 7.

Base, Basic

See pH.

Baume

Arbitrary scale of specific gravities; used to determine specific gravities and in graduation of hydrometers.

BCM

Blood-clotting mechanism effects.

Benign

Not recurrent or not tending to progress. Not cancerous.

Biodegradable

Organic material's capacity for decomposition as a result of attack by microorganisms.

Biohazardous Infectious Material

A biohazardous infectious material is a material that contains organisms which can cause disease in humans or animals. Included in this category are b...

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Biological exposure indexes (BEI)

Numerical values based on procedures to determine the amount of a material absorbed into the human body by measuring it or its metabolic products in t...

Biological monitoring

Periodic examination of body substances, such as blood or urine, to determine the extent of hazardous material absorption as opposed to mere exposure.

Biopsy

Removal and examination of tissue from the living body.

BOD

BOD stands for biological oxygen demand or biochemical oxygen demand. It is used as a method Of determining how much contamination has entered a water.

Body burden

Total amount of a toxic material that a person has ingested or inhaled from all sources over time.

Boiling liquid expanding vapor explosion (BLEVE)

Condition in which liquids are excessively heated, which may result in the violent rupture of a container, and the rapid vaporization of the material....

Boiling point

Temperature at which a liquid changes to a vapor state at a given pressure. Flammable materials with low boiling points generally present special fire...

Boiling Point

The boiling point is the temperature at which the material changes from a liquid to a gas. Below the boiling point, the liquid can evaporate to form a...

BOM or BuMINES

Bureau of Mines, U.S. Department of Interior.

Bonding

Safety practice where two objects are interconnected with clamps and bare wire. This equalizes electrical potential between the objects and helps prev...

Bradycardia

A slow heartbeat with pulse rate below 60/minute.

British thermal unit (BTU)

Quantity of heat required to raise the temperature of 1 pound of water 1 degree F at 39.2F, its temperature of maximum density.

Bronchitis

Inflammation of the bronchial tubes in the lungs.

Buffer

Substance that reduces the change in hydrogen ion concentration (pH) that otherwise would be produced by adding acids or bases to a solution.

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Bulk density

The mass (weight) per unit volume of a solid particulate material as it is normally packed, with voids between particulates containing air.

Buna

Trademark for synthetic rubber and rubberlike materials such as Buna-N (Nitrile) or Buna-S (Styrene).

CANUTEC

CANUTEC stands for Canadian Transport Emergency Centre, which is part of the Transport Dangerous Goods Directorate of Transport Canada. CANUTEC provide.

Carcinogen, Carcinogenic, Carcinogenicity

A carcinogen is a substance which can cause cancer. Carcinogenic means able to cause cancer. Carcinogenicity is the ability of a substance to cause.

CAS Registry Number

The CAS Registry Number is a number assigned to a material by the Chemical Abstracts Service (CAS) of the American Chemical Society (ACS).

CC

Depending on the context, CC can stand for closed cup, cubic centimetres or ceiling concentration.

CCC

CCC stands for Cleveland closed cup, a standard method of determining flash points.

CCOHS

CCOHS stands for the Canadian Centre for Occupational Health and Safety. CCOHS provides an occupational health and safety information service through

Ceiling (C)

See Exposure Limits for a general explanation

CERCLA

CERCLA stands for Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (U.S.).

Chemical Family

The chemical family describes the general nature of the chemical. Chemicals belonging to the same family often share certain physical and chemical.

Chemical Formula

The chemical formula, sometimes called the molecular formula, tells which elements (carbon, hydrogen, oxygen, and so on) make up a chemical.

Chemical Name

The chemical name is a proper scientific name for an ingredient of a product. For example, the chemical name of the herbicide 2, 4-D is 2, 4-dichlorophe...

Chemical Reactivity

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Chemical reactivity is the ability of a material to undergo a chemical change. A chemical reaction may occur under conditions such as heating, burning...

CHEMTREC

CHEMTREC stands for the Chemical Transportation Emergency Centre. It is a U. S. national center established by the Chemical Manufacturers Association...

Chronic

Chronic means long-term or prolonged. It can describe either an exposure or a health effect. A chronic exposure is a long-term exposure. Long-term mea...

CNS

CNS stands for central nervous system.

COC

COC stands for Cleveland open cup, a standard method of determining flash points.

COD

COD stands for chemical oxygen demand.

Coefficient of Oil/water Distribution

COD stands for chemical oxygen demand.

Coefficient of Oil/water Distribution

The coefficient of oil/water distribution, also called the partition coefficient (abbreviated as P), is the ratio of the solubility of a chemical in a...

Combustible

Combustible means able to burn. Broadly speaking, a material is combustible if it can catch fire and burn. However, in many jurisdictions, the term co...

Combustible Liquid

Under the Canadian Controlled Products Regulations (CPR), a combustible liquid has a flash point from 37.8 to 93.3 degrees C (100 to 200 degrees F) us...

Compressed Gas

A compressed gas is a material which is a gas at normal room temperature and pressure but is packaged as a pressurized gas, pressurized liquid or refr...

Controlled Products

Under the Canadian Products Regulations [part of the Workplace Hazardous Materials Information System (WHMIS)], a controlled product is defined as a m...

Controlled Products Regulations (CPR)

The regulations specify the criteria for identification of controlled products. They also specify what information must be included on labels and Mate...

Corrosive Material

A corrosive material can attack (corrode) metals or human tissues such as the skin or eyes. Corrosive materials may cause metal containers or structure

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CU M or CU.M

This stands for cubic metre

Dangerously Reactive Material

The Canadian Controlled Products Regulations (part of the Workplace Hazardous Materials Information System (WHMIS)) describes technical criteria for id...

Density

The density of a material is its weight for a given volume. Density is usually given in units of grams per millilitre (g/mL) or grams per cubic centim...

Dilution Ventilation

See General Ventilation.

DOT

DOT stands for the U.S. Department of Transportation.

Embryo

An embryo is an organism in the early stages of its development prior to birth. In humans, the embryo is the developing child from conception to the e...

Embryotoxic, Embryotoxicity

Embryotoxic means harmful to the embryo. Embryotoxicity is the ability of a substance to cause harm to the embryo. The Canadian Controlled Products Re...

Engineering Controls

Engineering controls help reduce exposure to potential hazards either by isolating the hazard or by removing it from the work environment. Engineering...

EPA

EPA stands for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

EU

EU stands for the European Union, formerly known as the EEC (European Economic Community) and the EC (European Community).

Evaporation Rate

The evaporation rate is a measure of how quickly the material becomes a vapour at normal room temperature. Usually, the evaporation rate is given in c...

Explosion Data

Explosion data is information on the explosive properties of a material. Quantitative explosion data is seldom available and is usually given in descr...

Explosive Limits

Explosive limits specify the concentration range of a material in air which will burn or explode in the presence of an ignition source (spark or flame...

Exposure Limits (or Occupational Exposure Limits (OELs))

An exposure limit is the concentration of a chemical in the workplace air to which most people can

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be exposed without experiencing harmful effects.

Extinguishing Media

Extinguishing media are agents which can put out fires involving the material. Common extinguishing agents are water, carbon dioxide; dry chemical, "a...

FDA

FDA stands for the Food and Drug Administration (U.S.)

Fetotoxic, Fetotoxicity

Fetotoxic means the substance is harmful to the fetus/foetus. Fetotoxicity describes the ability of a substance to harm the fetus.

Fetus / Foetus

A fetus is an organism in the later stages of development prior to birth. In humans, it is the unborn child from the end of the second month of pregna...

FIFRA

FIFRA stands for Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act (U.S.).

First Aid

First aid is emergency care given immediately to an injured person. The purpose of first aid is to minimize injury and future disability.

Flammable Aerosol

Under the Canadian Controlled Products Regulations, a material is identified as a flammable aerosol if it is packaged in an aerosol container which ca...

Flammable and Combustible Material

Under the Canadian Controlled Products Regulations, a material may be classified as a flammable and combustible material if it meets specific criteria...

Flammable Gas

A flammable gas is a gas which can ignite readily and burn rapidly or explosively. Under the Canadian Controlled Products Regulations and under the US...

Flammable Limits

See Explosive Limits

Flammable Liquid

A flammable liquid gives off a vapour which can be readily ignited at normal working temperatures. Under the Canadian Controlled Products Regulations

Flammable Solid

A flammable solid is a material which can ignite readily and burn vigorously and persistently. There are certain technical criteria in the Canadian Co...

Flammable, Flammability

Flammable means able to ignite and burn readily. Flammability is the ability of a material to ignite

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and burn readily. (See also Combustible.)

Flash Back

Flash back occurs when a trail of flammable gas, vapour or aerosol is ignited by a distant spark, flame or other source of ignition

Flash Point

The flash point is the lowest temperature at which a liquid or solid gives off enough vapour to form a flammable air-vapour mixture near its surface. ...

FR

FR stands for Federal Register (U.S.).

Freezing Point

See Melting Point.

Fumes

Fumes are very small, airborne, solid particles formed by the cooling of a hot vapour. For example, a hot zinc vapour may form when zinc-coated steel

Gas

A gas is a material without a specific shape or volume. Gases tend to occupy an entire space uniformly at normal room pressure and temperature.

General Ventilation

As used in a Material Safety Data Sheet, general ventilation, also known as dilution ventilation, is the removal of contaminated air from the general...

GI

GI stands for gastrointestinal (relating to the stomach and intestines).

Hazard, Hazardous

Hazard is the potential for harmful effects. Hazardous means potentially harmful. The hazards of a material are evaluated by examining the properties...

Hazardous Combustion Products

Hazardous combustion products are chemicals which may be formed when a material burns. These chemicals may be toxic, flammable or have other hazards. ...

Hazardous Ingredient

Hazardous decomposition products are formed when a material decomposes (breaks down) because it is unstable, or reacts with common materials such as w...

Hazardous Decomposition Products

Under the Canadian Hazardous Products Act, a chemical must be listed in the Hazardous Ingredients Section of a Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) if: ...

Hazardous Polymerization

See Polymerize, Polymerization

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HAZCOM

HAZCOM stands for the Hazard Communication Standard (U.S.) (29CFR1910.1200).

Hepatotoxin

Hepatotoxins are agents that can cause toxic effects on the liver.

Highly Toxic

Under the U.S. OSHA HAZCOM Standard, there are specific criteria for materials which must be identified as toxic. The corresponding term under Canada...

HR

HR stands for hour.

IARC

IARC stands for the International Agency for Research on Cancer. IARC evaluates information on the carcinogenicity of chemicals, groups of chemicals a...

IATA

IATA stands for International Air Transport Association.

IDLH

IDLH stands for Immediately Dangerous to Life or Health. For the purposes of respirator selection, the National Institute for Occupational Safety and...

ILO

ILO stands for the International Labour Office.

Impervious

Impervious is a term used to describe protective gloves and other protective clothing. If a material is impervious to a chemical, then that chemical c...

Incompatible Materials

Incompatible materials can react with the product or with components of the product and may: destroy the structure or function of a product; ...

Inert Ingredient

An inert ingredient is anything other than the active ingredient of a product. It may be a solvent, colorant, filler or dispersing agent. In some case...

Ingestion

Ingestion means taking a material into the body by mouth (swallowing).

Inhalation

Inhalation means taking a material into the body by breathing it in.

Irritancy, Irritation

Irritancy is the ability of a material to irritate the skin, eyes, nose, throat or any other part of the body that it contacts. Signs and symptoms of ...

ISO

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ISO stands for the International Organization for Standardization.

KG

KG stands for kilogram

Kow

Kow stands for octanol/water partition coefficient.

LC50

LC stands for lethal concentration. LC50 is the concentration of a material in air which causes the death of 50% (one half) of a group of test animals...

LCLO

LCLO stands for lowest lethal airborne concentration tested. (See also LC50 and LD50.)

LD50

LD stands for lethal dose. LD50 is the amount of a material, given all at once, which causes the death of 50% (one half) of a group of test animals.

LDLO

LDLO stands for lowest lethal dose tested. (See also LC50 and LD50.)

LEL

See Explosive Limits.

LFL

See Explosive Limits.

Local Exhaust Ventilation

Local exhaust ventilation is the removal of contaminated air directly at its source. This type of ventilation can help reduce worker exposure to airbo...

Lower Explosion Limit

See Explosive Limits.

Lower Flammable Limit

See Explosive Limits.

Material Causing Immediate and Serious Toxic Effects

The Canadian Controlled Products Regulations describe technical criteria for identifying materials which cause immediate and serious toxic effects.

Material Causing Other Toxic Effects

The Canadian Controlled Products Regulations describe technical criteria for identifying materials which cause toxic effects such as skin or respirato...

Means Of Extinction

See Extinguishing Media.

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Mechanical Ventilation

Mechanical ventilation is the movement of air by mechanical means (for example, a wall fan). There are two kinds of mechanical ventilation: general

Melting Point

The melting point is the temperature at which a solid material becomes a liquid. The freezing point is the temperature at which a liquid material

MESA

MESA stands for Mining Enforcement and Safety Administration. MESA was the United States government agency responsible for enforcing the health

mg/m³

The abbreviation mg/m³ stands for milligrams (mg) of a material per cubic metre (m³) of air. It is a unit of metric measurement for concentration.

MIN

MIN can stand for minute or minimum.

Miscible

Miscible means able to be mixed. Two liquids are said to be miscible if they are partially or completely soluble in each other.

Mist

A mist is a collection of liquid droplets suspended in air. A mist can be formed when spraying or splashing a liquid.

ML

ML stands for milliliters (mL).

Mm Hg

The abbreviation mm Hg stands for millimeters (mm) of mercury (Hg). It is a common unit of measurement for the pressure exerted by gases such as air. ...

Molecular Formula

See Chemical Formula.

Molecular Weight

The molecular weight of a chemical is a number showing how heavy one molecule (or unit) of the chemical is compared to the lightest element, hydrogen,...

MSDS

MSDS stands for Material Safety Data Sheet. The MSDS is a document that contains information on the potential health effects of exposure and how to wo...

MSHA

MSHA stands for Mine Safety and Health Administration. MSHA is the United States government agency responsible for enforcing the health and safety reg...

Mutagen, Mutagenic, Mutagenicity

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Commonly, the term mis...

NA Number

See UN Number

Natural Ventilation

Natural ventilation is a type of general ventilation which depends on natural instead of mechanical means for air movement. Natural ventilation can de...

Nephrotoxins

Nephrotoxins are agents that can cause toxic effects on the kidney.

Neurotoxins

Neurotoxins are agents that can cause toxic effects on the nervous system.

NFPA

NFPA stands for National Fire Protection Association (U.S.).

NIOSH

NIOSH stands for National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health. NIOSH is a branch of the United States government which undertakes research an...

NOEL

NOEL stands for No Observable Effect Level.

NOS

NOS stand for Not Otherwise Specified.

NTP

NTP stands for National Toxicology Program. This program is part of the United States Department of Health and Human Services. The NTP has a large pro...

Nuisance Dust, Nuisance Particulate

Nuisance particulate is a term used historically by the ACGIH (American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists) to describe airborne materia...

OC

OC stands for open cup.

Odour Threshold

The odour threshold is the lowest concentration of a chemical in air that is detectable by smell. The odour threshold should only be regarded as an es...

OECD

OECD stands for Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development. The OECD is an international agency which supports programs designed to facilit...

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OEL

OEL stands for Occupational Exposure Limit. (See Exposure Limits for a general explanation.)

OSHA

OSHA stands for Occupational Safety and Health Administration. It is the branch of the United States government which sets and enforces occupational h...

Oxidizing Agent, Oxidizing Material

An oxidizing agent or material gives up oxygen easily or can readily oxidize other materials. Examples of oxidizing agents are oxygen, chlorine and pe...

Particulates Not Otherwise Classified (PNOC)

Particulate not otherwise classified is a term defined by the ACGIH (American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists).

Partition Coefficient

See Coefficient of Oil/Water Distribution.

PEL

PEL stands for Permissible Exposure Limit. PELs are legal limits in the United States set by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA)....

Pensky-Martens Closed Cup

Pensky-Martens Closed Cup (PMCC) is a specific method for determining flash points.

Personal Protective Equipment

Personal protective equipment is clothing or devices worn to help isolate a person from direct exposure to a hazardous material or situation.

pH

The pH is a measure of the acidity or basicity (alkalinity) of a material when dissolved in water. It is expressed on a scale from 0 to 14.

PIN

See UN Number.

PMCC

See Pensky-Martens Closed Cup

PNS

PNS stands for peripheral nervous system.

Poisonous and Infectious Material

Under the Canadian Controlled Products Regulations, a Poisonous and Infectious Material is any material which meets the criteria for a Material Causin...

Polymer

A polymer is a natural or man-made material formed by combining units, called monomers, into long chains. The word polymer means many parts.

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Polymerize, Polymerization

Polymerization is the process of forming a polymer by combining large numbers of chemical units or monomers into long chains.

ppb

ppb stands for parts per billion.

ppm

The abbreviation ppm stands for parts per million. It is a common unit of concentration of gases or vapour in air.

Process Enclosure

As used on a Material Safety Data Sheet, process enclosure means that the operation in which the material is used is completely enclosed.

PSI

PSI stands for pounds per square inch and is a unit of pressure.

Pyrophoric

Pyrophoric chemicals are defined in the U.S. OSHA Hazcom Standard as chemicals which will ignite spontaneously in air at a temperature of 130 degrees...

RCRA

RCRA stands for Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (U.S.) It is a statute regulating waste that is administered by the U.S. EPA.

Reactive Flammable Material

Under the Canadian Controlled Products Regulations, a reactive flammable material is a material which is a dangerous fire risk because it can react re...

Relative Density

See Specific Gravity.

Reproductive Effects

Reproductive effects are problems in the reproductive process which may be caused by a substance. Possible reproductive effects include reduced fertil...

Reproductive Toxicity

The Canadian Controlled Products Regulations describe technical criteria for identifying materials which have reproductive toxicity. These criteria re...

Respiratory Sensitization

See Sensitization.

RQ

RQ stands for reportable quantity.

RTECS

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RTECS stands for Registry of Toxic Effects of Chemical Substances.

SARA

SARA stands for Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act of 1986 (U.S.).

SEC

SEC stands for second or section.

Sensitization

Sensitization is the development, over time, of an allergic reaction to a chemical. The chemical may cause a mild response on the first few exposures ...

Skin Notation

See Exposure Limits for a general explanation.

Skin Sensitization

See Sensitization.

Solubility

Solubility is the ability of a material to dissolve in water or another liquid. Solubility may be expressed as a ratio or may be described using words...

Solvent

A solvent is a material, usually a liquid, which is capable of dissolving another chemical. Chemicals commonly called solvents can dissolve many different

Specific Gravity

Specific gravity is the ratio of the density of a material to the density of water. The density of water is about 1 gram per cubic centimetre (g/cc). ...

Stability

Stability is the ability of a material to remain unchanged in the presence of heat, moisture or air. An unstable material may decompose, polymerize

STEL

STEL stands for Short-Term Exposure Limit. (See Exposure Limits for a general explanation.)

STP

STP stands for Standard Temperature and Pressure (0 degrees Celsius and one atmosphere pressure).

Synergistic, Synergism

Synergism means that exposure to more than one chemical can result in health effects greater than expected when the effects of exposure to each chemical...

Synonyms

Synonyms are alternative names for the same chemical. For example, methanol and methyl hydrate are synonyms for methyl alcohol.

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Target Organ Effects

Under the U.S. OSHA HAZCOM Standard, chemicals are identified as having target organ effects if there is statistically significant evidence of an actuality.

TCLO

TCLO stands for lowest toxic airborne concentration tested (see also LCLO and LC50).

TDG

TDG stands for Transportation of Dangerous Goods. In Canada, the transportation of potentially hazardous materials is regulated under the federal Tran...

TDG Flammability Classification

Under the Canadian TDG Act and Regulations, chemicals are classified as flammable materials if they have certain properties.

TDLO

TDLO stands for lowest toxic dose tested (see also LDLO and LD50).

Teratogen, Teratogenic, Teratogenicity

A teratogen is a substance which can cause birth defects. Teratogenic means able to cause birth defects.

Thermal Decomposition Products

Thermal decomposition products are chemicals which may be formed when the material is heated but does not burn.

TLM

TLM stands for Threshold Limit, median (aquatic toxicity rating).

TLV

TLV stands for Threshold Limit Value. It is the occupational exposure limit established by the American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists..

TLV-C

TLV-C stands for the ACGIH (American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists) Threshold Limit Value-Ceiling. See also TLV.

TOC

TOC stands for Tagliabue open cup; a standard method of determining flash points. Generally, this appears in abbreviated form as Tag open cup.

Toxic, Toxicity

Toxic means able to cause harmful health effects. Toxicity is the ability of a substance to cause harmful health effects.

Trade Name

A trade name is the name under which a product is commercially known. Some materials are sold under common names, such as Stoddard solvent or degrease...

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TSCA

TSCA stands for Toxic Substances Control Act (U.S.).

TWA

TWA stands for Time-Weighted Average. (See Exposure Limits for a general explanation.)

UEL

See Explosive Limits.

UFL

See Explosive Limits.

uG

uG stands for microgram, a unit of mass.

UN

UN stands for United Nations. See also UN Number.

UN Number

UN number stands for United Nations number. The UN number is a four-digit number assigned to a potentially hazardous material

Unstable (Reactive)

Under the U.S. OSHA HAZCOM standard, a chemical is identified as unstable (reactive) if in the pure state, or as produced or transported, it will vigo...

Upper Explosion Limit

See Explosive Limits.

Upper Explosive Limit

See Explosive Limits.

Upper Flammable Limit

See Explosive Limits.

USEPA

See EPA

Vapour

A vapour is the gaseous form of a material which is normally solid or liquid at room temperature and pressure.

Vapour Density

Vapour density is the weight per unit volume of a pure gas or vapour. The vapour density is commonly given as the ratio of the density of the gas or v...

Vapour Pressure

Vapour pressure is a measure of the tendency of a material to form a vapour. The higher the vapour pressure, the higher the potential vapour concentra...

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Ventilation

Ventilation is the movement of air. One of the main purposes of ventilation is to remove contaminated air from the workplace. There are several differ...

Very Toxic

Under the Canadian Controlled Products Regulations, there are specific technical criteria for identifying a very toxic material. There are specific cr...

VOC

VOC stands for Volatile Organic Compound.

Volatile, Volatility

Volatile means a material can evaporate. Volatility is the ability of a material to evaporate. The term volatile is commonly understood to mean that a...

Water Reactive

Under the U.S. OSHA HAZCOM standard, a chemical is identified as water reactive if it reacts with water to release a gas that is either flammable or p...

WHMIS

WHMIS stands for Workplace Hazardous Materials Information System. It is a Canadian program designed to protect workers by providing them and their em...

††††† : <http://www.tci.tdcj.state.tx.us/info/downloads/msds/glossary.pdf>