



Hazardous Materials Labeling

Hazardous waste regulations require that if hazardous materials are not properly labeled within ten days, they must be managed as hazardous waste. The Uniform Fire Code requires that individual containers, cartons or packages shall be conspicuously marked or labeled in accordance with nationally recognized standards. These standards can be found in OSHA regulations at <https://www.osha.gov/dsg/hazcom/ghs.html>.

OSHA Requirements

Each container of hazardous chemicals in the workplace must be labeled, tagged or marked with the following information:

- Identity of the hazardous chemical(s)
- Appropriate hazard warnings

Individual stationary process containers can be identified by signs, etc., rather than affixing the label to the container.

Newer containers are shipped with the appropriate labeling. However, older containers may not have the appropriate labeling, labels may have been damaged, or a hazardous material may have been transferred to a container which previously held another type of hazardous material and is now mislabeled.

How to Label Correctly

Labels or tags can be purchased from a safety supply company, or the required information can be marked directly on the container. Chemical name(s) and hazard warnings can be found on the Safety Data Sheet (SDS) provided by the supplier when the chemical was purchased. If you cannot locate the SDS, obtain one from the supplier. Place the label, tag or marking in a conspicuous place on the container.

Note: This fact sheet is intended for informational purposes only and may not encompass all the laws and regulations to this topic. More details may be found at Cal/EPA Department of Toxic Substance Control: www.dtsc.ca.gov. If further information is needed, call the County of Los Angeles CUPA at (323) 890-4045, or your local district office.

References

- [Title 22 California Code of Regulations 66261.2\(f\)](#)
- [Title 29 Code of Federal Regulations 1910.1200\(f\)](#)
- [Title 32, Los Angeles County Fire Code 5003.5.1](#)