

## APPENDIX A: SAMPLE WRITTEN HAZARD COMMUNICATION PROGRAM

The following sample hazard communication program is based on the requirements of the Hazard Communication Standard (HazCom 2012), 29 CFR 1910.1200. The intent of this sample is to provide an easy-to-use format that can be modified to address the specific situation in your workplace. You are free to use whatever format you choose to develop your program—there is no requirement to follow this example. However, if you use this or any other sample program, you must customize it to your specific workplace, otherwise you will not be in compliance with the HCS.

### HAZARD COMMUNICATION PROGRAM

#### 1. Company Policy

To ensure that information about the dangers of all hazardous chemicals used by *(Name of Company)* is known by all affected workers, the following hazard communication program has been implemented. Under this program, workers will be informed of the requirements of the OSHA Hazard Communication Standard, the operations where exposure to hazardous chemicals may occur, and how workers can access this program, as well as labels and SDSs.

This program applies to any chemical which is known to be present in the workplace in such a manner that workers may be exposed under normal conditions of use or in a foreseeable emergency. All work areas that involve potential exposure to chemicals are part of the hazard communication program. Copies of the hazard communication program are available in the **(location)** for review by any interested worker.

*(Name of responsible person and/or position)* is the program coordinator, with overall responsibility for the program, including reviewing and updating this plan as necessary.

#### 2. Container Labeling

*(Name of responsible person and/or position)* will verify that all containers received for use will be clearly labeled in accord with the requirements of HazCom 2012, including a product identifier, pictogram, hazard statement, signal word, and precautionary statements, as well as the supplier's contact information (name and address).

The *(name of responsible person and/or position)* in each work area will ensure that all secondary containers are labeled with the original supplier's label or with an alternative workplace label. For help with labeling, see *(name of responsible person and/or position)*.

On the following individual stationary process containers, we are using *(description of labeling system used)* rather than a label to convey the required information:

#### ***(List containers here)***

We are using an in-house labeling system *(describe any in-house system which conveys required workplace label information)*.

The *(name of responsible person and/or position)* will review the company labeling procedures every *(provide a time period)* and will update labels as required.

#### 3. Safety Data Sheets (SDSs)

The *(name of responsible person and/or position)* is responsible for establishing and monitoring the company SDS program. The procedure below will be followed when an SDS is not received at the time of initial shipment:

#### ***(Describe procedure to be followed here)***

Copies of SDSs for all hazardous chemicals to which workers are exposed or are potentially exposed will be kept in *(identify location)*. Workers can access SDSs by *(insert procedure for access)*.

Note: If alternatives to paper copies of SDSs are used, describe the format used and how workers can access the SDSs.

SDSs will be readily available to all workers in each work area during each work shift. If an SDS is not available, contact *(name of responsible person and/or position)*.

When revised SDSs are received, the following procedures will be followed to replace old SDSs:

***(Describe procedures)***

The *(name of responsible person and/or position)* is responsible for reviewing the SDSs received for safety and health implications, and initiating any needed changes in workplace practices.

#### **4. Employee Information and Training**

*(Name of responsible person and/or position)* is responsible for employee information and training.

Every worker who will be potentially exposed to hazardous chemicals will receive initial training on the Hazard Communication standard and this program before starting work.

The training program for new workers is as follows *(describe how the training will be presented, and what it will include)*.

Prior to introducing a new chemical hazard into any work area, each worker in that work area will be given information and training as outlined above for the new chemical hazard. The training format will be as follows:

***(Describe training format, such as audiovisuals, interactive computer programs, classroom instruction, etc.)***

#### **5. Hazards of Non-routine Tasks**

Periodically, workers are required to perform non-routine tasks that are hazardous. Examples of non-routine tasks are: confined space entry, tank cleaning, and painting reactor vessels. Prior to starting work on such projects, each affected worker will be given information by *(Name of responsible person and/or position)* about the hazardous chemicals he or she may encounter during such activity. This information will include specific chemical hazards, protective and safety measures the worker should use, and steps

the company is taking to reduce the hazards, including ventilation, respirators, the presence of another worker (buddy systems), and emergency procedures.

#### **6. Informing Other Employers/Contractors**

It is the responsibility of *(Name of responsible person and/or position)* to provide other employers and contractors with information about hazardous chemicals that their workers may be exposed to on this work site, and suggested precautions for workers. It is the responsibility of *(Name of responsible person and/or position)* to obtain information about hazardous chemicals used by other employers to which our workers may be exposed.

Other employers and contractors will be provided with SDSs for hazardous chemicals generated by this company's operations in the following manner:

***(Describe company policy here)***

In addition to providing a copy of an SDS to other employers, other employers will be informed of necessary precautionary measures to protect workers exposed to operations performed by this company.

Also, other employers will be informed of the hazard labels used by the company. If alternative workplace labeling systems are used, the other employers will be provided with information to understand the labels used for hazardous chemicals to which their workers may have exposure.

#### **7. List of Hazardous Chemicals**

A list of all known hazardous chemicals in the workplace is attached to this program. This list includes the name of each chemical, and the work area(s) in which each of the chemicals is used. Further information on each chemical may be obtained from the SDSs, located in **(identify location)**.

When new chemicals are received, this list is updated within (x) days of introduction into the workplace. To ensure that any new chemical is added in a timely manner, the following procedures shall be followed:

***(Identify procedures to be followed)***

The hazardous chemical inventory is compiled and maintained by **(Name of responsible person and/or position and telephone number)**.

**8. Chemicals in Unlabeled Pipes**

Work activities may be performed by workers in areas where chemicals are transferred through unlabeled pipes. Prior to starting work in these

areas, the worker shall be informed by *(Name of responsible person and/or position)* about the identity and hazards of the chemicals in the pipe, as well as required precautionary measures required to be followed.

**9. Program Availability**

A copy of this program will be made available, upon request, to workers, their designated representatives, and OSHA.