

EAST COUNTY FIRE & RESCUE
Policies, Procedures, and Guidelines

SUBJECT: Materials Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) Policy

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APPROVED BY:


Board Chair

REVIEWED: _____

Revised :

BY: _____

POLICY:

PURPOSE: To notify personnel of hazardous substances stored in fire stations and on other Fire Department property so that protective measures can be taken.

SCOPE: ALL ECFR Personnel

POLICY: In order to comply with the Occupational Safety and Health Standard on Hazard Communications, Sub-article 6, Section 1910.1200, the following written Hazard Communication Program has been established. All members of the Department are included in the program. This written program is to be maintained in the SOG Manual located in computer room of each fire station and accessible to all personnel.

East County Fire & Rescue will meet the requirements of this regulation as follows.

I. Container Labeling:

A. The MSDS Program Manager will verify that all containers received for use will:

1. Be clearly labeled as to the contents.
2. Note the appropriate hazard warning.
3. List the name and address of the manufacturer.

B. Company officers at each fire station will insure that all containers are labeled to reflect the contents of the container. For help with labeling, call Linda at 834-4908.

II. Materials Safety Data Sheets (MSDS). Copies of the MSDS's for all hazardous chemicals to which employees may be exposed at Fire Department buildings will be included in this manual. MSDS's will be available to all employees at their work area for review during each work shift. If MSDS's are not available or new chemicals do not have MSDS's, call the Program Manager immediately.

III. Employee Training and Information. Prior to starting work, each new employee will attend a safety and health orientation to receive information and training. New firefighters and other Fire Department employees who may be exposed to hazardous material used on-site will receive this training through the Department's Training Division. Current employees will receive the orientation, using this procedure as a guideline from their company officers.

A. Training will cover the following items:

1. An overview of the requirements contained in the Hazard Communication Standards, Section 1910.1200 (See Appendix At the back of this operating policy.)
2. Chemicals present in fire stations.
3. Locations and availability of the written hazard communication program. This procedure is in the SOG Manual.
4. Physical and health effects of the hazardous chemical that are on site.
5. Methods and observations techniques used to determine the presence and release of hazardous chemicals in the work area.
6. How to lessen or prevent exposure to these Hazardous chemicals through use of control work practices, and personnel protective equipment.
7. Steps the Department has taken to lessen or prevent exposure to these chemicals.
8. Emergency procedures to follow if someone is exposed to these chemicals.
9. How to read labels and review MSDS's to obtain appropriate hazard information.

B. East County Fire and Rescue requires new and current members to receive initial and annual hazardous communications training, as required by current WACs.

C. Prior to a new hazardous chemical being introduced into any Fire Department building, each affected member will be given information as outlined above. The MSDS Program Manager is responsible for ensuring that MSDS's on new chemicals are available.

IV. List of Hazardous Chemicals: In Appendix B of this SOG, a list of known hazardous materials used by employees of East County Fire & Rescue at fire stations that are in sufficient quantities to qualify under this program. Information on each chemical can be obtained by reviewing the Material Safety Data Sheets located in the Rules and Regs.

V. Hazardous Non-routine Tasks. Occasionally, employees are required to perform hazardous non-routine tasks. Prior to starting work on such projects, each affected employee

will be given information by his or her supervisor about hazardous chemicals to which he or she may be exposed.

A. This information will include,

1. Specific chemical hazards.
2. Protective/Safety measures the employee can take.
3. Measures that the Fire Department has taken to lessen the hazard including ventilation, respirators, presence of another employee and emergency procedures.

Appendix A

Hazardous Communication Standard Section 1910.1200

Appendix B

Qualifying Hazardous Materials at Fire Stations:

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Appendix C

MSDS's listed in Appendix B are found at the back of the SOG Manual.