HAZARDS COMMUNICATION STANDARD  (August, 2008)

- Employees
  - Must be informed of hazards in the workplace

- Chemical manufacturers
  - Identify all physical and health hazards
  - Attaching warning labels to each container
  - Send an accurate MSDS (Material Safety Data Sheets) to any company to whom the material is shipped
HAZARDS COMMUNICATION IS A RESPONSIBILITY OF ALL

- Everyone should be aware of chemicals and other hazardous materials and conditions.
- EHS keeps all the MSDS’s in database
- Supervisors must see that all workers are aware of safety standards
Your Responsibilities:

- Read all instructions on the each product warning labels (WATER has an MSDS!)
- Where to go if you have Questions
  - The Container label
  - Supervisor
  - MSDS
  - EHS
Your Responsibilities:

- ABOVE ALL - Use your common sense and protect yourself and others!
- Be available to responders
  - Be a good resource
EHS Responsibilities:

- Keep all MSDS in database
- Training
- Provide Information / MSDS on chemicals
- Provide guidance to all safety related topics
Physical Hazards

- Act outside the body to produce a dangerous situation.

**Examples:**

- Vehicle accidents
- Mechanical Boilers, Steam vents
- Fire: Gasoline, Hexane, and Methanol…
- Explosions: TNT, Picric acid …
- Falls: Trip, Ladder, and Steps…
- Sharps: Knifes, Glass, and Jagged Metal…
Health Hazards:

- Cause damage within the body

**Examples:**

- Lung Damage: Corrosive Fumes, Asbestos...
- Poisoning: Eating, or Absorbing Toxic substances
  - (recent cases: Harvard coffee in lab, child licking hand sanitizer)
Hazards of chemicals:

- Can pose **Physical Hazards** or **Health Hazards** or Both.

- Chemicals are Found:
  - Home
  - Vehicles
  - Job
  - Almost Everywhere
Chemical hazards at CSU:

- Everywhere, not just your building
- Nearly all jobs at CSU have both Physical and Chemical Hazards
General types of chemical hazards:

- **Flammable:** Methanol, Gasoline, Hexane
- **Corrosive:** Hydrochloric acid, Sodium Hydroxide
- **Toxic:** Cyanide, Pesticides, Mercury
- **Oxidizers:** Bleach, Perchloric and Chromic acids
- **Water Reactive:** Pure Sodium, Magnesium Perchlorate
- **Explosives:** Trinitrotoluene (TNT), Picric acid
Container Labeling

- All chemicals, and chemical wastes **must** be properly labeled* and marked.
- Notify EHS if you find unmarked containers

* Contact EHS for requirements
Building and Room postings

- University wide program for consistent labeling
- Notify EHS for postings
NFPA Laboratory Placarding

NFPA 704 Hazard Placard

4 = Severe Hazard
3 = Serious Hazard
2 = Moderate Hazard
1 = Slight Hazard
0 = Minimal Hazard
Your Questions?

- Discussion about issues you’ve identified
- Share your expertise with others!
Resources

- www.epa.gov/emergencies/content/epcra/index.htm
- www.ehs.colostate.edu
- www.training.colostate.edu/proctor/index.html