



# COSHH Handbook



Contact the Office on 01522 300161 www.singleton-associates.org





### **ASSESS THE RISKS**



### ASSESS THE STEPS NEEDED TO MEET THE REGULATIONS



### PREVENT OR AT LEAST CONTROL EXPOSURE



### ENSURE THAT THE CONTROLS ARE PROPERLY USED AND MAINTAINED



## EXAMINE AND TEST THE CONTROL MEASURES IF THIS IS REQUIRED



INFORM, INSTRUCT AND TRAIN EMPLOYEES AND NON-EMPLOYEES WHO ARE ON THE PREMISES

#### **HAZCHEM SYMBOLS**



### **Chemical Hazard Definitions**

TOXIC	A substance which if inhaled or ingested or penetrates the skin may involve serious health risks or death.
HARMFUL	A substance which if inhaled or ingested or penetrates the skin may involve limited health risk.
CORROSIVE	A substance which on contact with living tissue may destroy it.
IRRITANT	A non-corrosive substance which through immediate, prolonged or repeated contact with the skin or mucous membrane can cause inflammation.
DERMATITIC	A substance which causes dermatitis.
SENSITISING	A substance which causes an allergic reaction — anything affecting the lungs is a respiratory sensitizer.

CARCINOGENIC	A substance which may cause cancer.
EXPLOSIVE	A substance which may explode under the effect of flame or energy.
OXIDISING	A substance which gives rise to highly exothermic (heat producing) reactions when in contact with other substances.
FLAMMABLE	A substance which has a flash point of between 21-55°C.
HIGHLY FLAMMABLE	A substance which has a flash point of between 0-21°C.
EXTREMELY FLAMMABLE	A substance which has a flash point of less than 0°C.
NARCOTIC	A substance which causes stupor.

#### Hazard data sheets

There are 16 sections in a COSHH data sheet, there is no set order, but they must include the following:

- A technical sheet outlining (for a specific chemical)
- Product description & intended use
- Composition/Physical properties
- Precautions for handling/storage
- First Aid & fire procedures
- Environmental information
- Emergency procedures
- Exposure levels

#### Reach rules

#### What is REACH?

REACH (Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals) is the new system for controlling chemicals in Europe. It became law in the UK on 1 June 2007.

#### Registration

Any company manufacturing or importing a substance on its own, in a mixture, or in finished manufactured goods at or above 1 tonne per year may have to register it. This is done by submitting a dossier to the new European Chemicals Agency, based in Helsinki, providing details of the substance's properties, other relevant information about risks and how these risks can be managed. You will not be able to market or use the substance, or article containing a substance within the EU unless it has been registered.

### 10 rules for COSHH

- ✓ NEVER mix chemicals
- ✓ NEVER put chemicals into unmarked bottles
- ✓ NEVER use chemicals unless trained
- ✓ ALWAYS read the label or instructions
- ✓ ALWAYS wear PPE
- ✓ ALWAYS report defects or problems
- ✓ ALWAYS keep area clean & tidy to prevent slips & trips
- ✓ ALWAYS carry or transport chemicals in sealed containers
- ✓ **ALWAYS** store chemicals in secure area
- ✓ **ALWAYS** report symptoms of ill health

Other courses we offer include:

Basic Food Hygiene

**Food Hygiene Plus** 

**Intermediate Food Hygiene** 

**Advanced Food Hygiene** 

**Emergency First Aid at Work** 

First Aid at Work

**Basic Health & Safety** 

**Intermediate Health & Safety** 

COSHH

**Manual Handling** 

**Risk Assessment** 

**Understanding Strokes & Diabetes** 

For details of our quality assurance, please visit our web site: http://www.singleton-associates.org/services/quality-assurance/

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