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HAZCOM HELPER—OSHA VERSION COMPLIANCE TOOL FOR OSHA RULE 29 CFR 1910.1200

Objective

Develop tools that companies can use to comply with 29 CFR 1910.1200.

Background

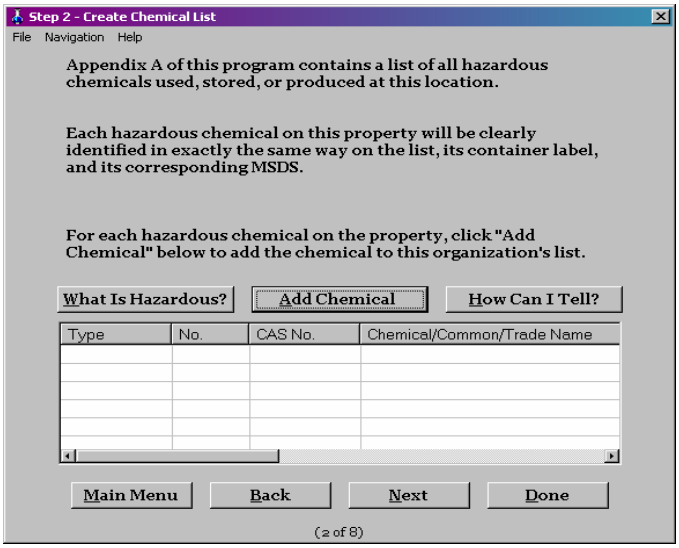
Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) rule 29 CFR 1910.1200 (also known as the Hazard Communication Standard) requires all employers having hazardous chemicals in their workplaces to develop a written hazard communication program. Employers must list all these chemicals and describe how the company will address requirements to (1) label containers used to store hazardous chemicals, (2) obtain or develop Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) for hazardous chemicals, (3) provide potentially exposed workers with information about and training in working around hazardous chemicals, and (4) provide appropriate protective measures.

Approach

NIOSH personnel developed the HazCom Helper—MSHA Version to help mining companies write their HazCom documents as required by 30 CFR Part 47. Following many requests for the HazCom Helper from companies regulated by OSHA, NIOSH revised the program to create the HazCom Helper—OSHA Version to be more compatible with the specific needs of these nonmining companies.

This software leads the person responsible for writing a HazCom plan step-by-step through its preparation. Prompts and suggestions are provided to help the writer fill in the proper information. The Help menu is also useful. Appendix A assists with writing a list of all hazardous chemicals at a site. The program can be saved and recalled at any time so it can be updated whenever necessary.

A CD version of the HazCom program (NIOSH Pub. No. 2005-135) with an evaluation form can be obtained from the address below. It has been reviewed by OSHA and is available on both the OSHA and NIOSH (www.cdc.gov/niosh/mining/topics/chemicalhazards/) Web sites.



Sample Menu for HazCom Helper

For More Information

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To receive other information about occupational safety and health topics, call **1–800–35–NIOSH (1–800–356–4674)**, or visit the NIOSH Web site at www.cdc.gov/niosh.
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