Hazard Communication

Introductory Training
Hazard communication involves:

- Identifying/assessing chemical hazards;
- Communicating chemical hazards to the end users; and
- Helping individuals know how they can protect themselves from the chemical hazards.

Individuals exposed to chemical hazards need to know:

- How to interpret SDS and product labels;
- How they could be exposed to the chemical hazards in the workplace;
- How to protect themselves from the chemical hazards;
- How to detect the presence of the chemical(s) (normal & emergency conditions); and
- What to do if the chemical(s) are accidentally released.

The BYU written Hazard Communication (HAZCOM) program is available online at http://risk.byu.edu/safety/safety_programs/HazardCommunication.php
In March 2012 OSHA aligned their HAZCOM standard with the U.N. Globally Harmonized System (GHS) for hazard classification of substances and mixtures, SDS development, and product labeling.

Chemical manufacturers and producers use decision logic provided in the GHS to determine the hazard classification(s) of chemical substances and mixtures, and what hazard and precautionary statements, signal words, and symbols must be provided.

The GHS helps standardize information found on Safety Data Sheets (SDS) and product labels.
End Users are Provided With

Safety Data Sheets (SDS)  Product Labels

“Material Safety Data Sheets” (MSDS) have been retitled “Safety Data Sheets” (SDS)
Safety Data Sheets (SDS’s)

SDS are documents that include the following sections in the following order:

- Section 1, Identification (i.e. product name);
- Section 2, Hazard(s) identification;
- Section 3, Composition/information on ingredients;
- Section 4, First-aid measures;
- Section 5, Fire-fighting measures;
- Section 6, Accidental release measures;
- Section 7, Handling and storage;
- Section 8, Exposure controls/personal protection;
- Section 9, Physical and chemical properties;
- Section 10, Stability and reactivity;
- Section 11, Toxicological information;
- Section 12, Ecological information;
- Section 13, Disposal considerations;
- Section 14, Transport information;
- Section 15, Regulatory information; and
- Section 16, Other information, including date of preparation or last revision.
Review the hazard statements on the primary container label or SDS for additional hazard information.
Can you tell what hazards are associated with Dichloromethane by looking only at the hazard symbols? No. The hazard statements must also be reviewed.

Example

Hazard Statements

(primary container label)
Up-to-date Safety Data Sheets (SDS) must be made readily available by the employer to their employees in hard copy or electronic format.

Check container label for contact information.

Sigma-aldrich.com
Street Address & Phone Number

They May request SDS for the chemicals in the area.

If emergency services are summoned.
Container Labeling Requirements

Primary Container Labels
Applied by the manufacturer

Don't remove or deface labels

Secondary Container Labels
Applied by the End User

Must Contain:
- Product Identification
  (chemical/product name)
- Hazard Identification
  (words/pictures/symbols)

Information needed for secondary labels can be found on SDS or primary container labels.

Make sure primary and secondary chemical containers are labeled.