

The Easy HANDBOOK of European SDSs

SECTION 7:

handling and storage



What information do I need to provide in section 7 of the SDS?



7.1 Precautions for safe handling



7.2 Conditions for safe storage, including any incompatibilities



7.3 Specific end use(s)

This section shall give recommendations on **safe handling practices**. It should highlight appropriate precautions, taking into account the identified uses of the product (referred to in subsection 1.2) and the specific properties of the substance or mixture. The provided information shall guarantee **safety and the protection of human health and of the environment**.

Where a chemical safety report is required (i.e., for substances subject to registration and produced or imported in quantities exceeding 10 tons/year), the information in this section shall be consistent with the information on identified uses provided in the chemical safety report and with the exposure scenarios demonstrating risk control set out in the Annex to the SDS.

For mixtures as well as for substances, this is one of the sections in which you must report any operating conditions and/or risk management measures deriving from the scenarios of the substances contained or possibly from the chemical safety assessment of the mixture itself.

To I subsection

Precautions for safe handling



In this subsection you have to provide recommendations that:

- allow safe handling of the substance or mixture (with references to containment and prevention measures for fire, aerosol and dust generation);
- **prevent handling** of incompatible substances or mixtures;
- indicate the operations and conditions that create new risks, by changing the properties of the substance or mixture, and the appropriate countermeasures;
- reduce the release of the substance or mixture into the environment (e.g., by preventing spills or keeping it away from drains).

Measures may be indicated for the implementation of good industrial and/or professional hygiene practices, such as: "do not eat, do not drink and do not smoke in work areas".

This subsection should provide information on **protective measures** for safe handling and recommended technical measures (such as containment), measures to prevent **aerosol and dust generation and fire**, measures required to protect the **environment** and any other specific requirements or rules relating to the substance or mixture. If possible, provide a brief description of the measure.



For example, if the product is flammable, is supplied in tanks and is going to be repackaged in smaller containers, you must provide information on the suitable material (or materials to avoid). Indications must also be given on how to avoid generating explosive atmospheres in the warehouse and on how to avoid sparks during decanting operations.

It is possible to use of the **prevention precautionary statements** (codified with P2..), whose translations are already present in the CLP regulation in all the official languages of the European Union.

Always remember to compare the exposure scenarios of the contained substances, to check for any operating conditions that should be indicated in this subsection, considering the type of expected operations according to the product's identified uses (reported in section 1.2).

SECOND STEP **Conditions for safe** storage, including subsection any incompatibilities



The recommendations given in this subsection shall be consistent with the physical and chemical properties described in section 9 of the SDS and with the information in section 10.

This subsection shall specify the conditions for safe storage, including:

- the specific design of storage rooms or vessels;
- incompatible materials;
- storage conditions;
- special electrical equipment and prevention of static electricity.

More specifically, the safe storage recommendations that can be provided are:

1 how to manage the risks associated with

- explosive atmospheres;
- corrosive conditions:
- flammability hazards;
- incompatible substances or mixtures;
- evaporation conditions:
- potential ignition sources (including electrical equipment).

2 how to control the effects of

- weather conditions:
- ambient pressure;
- temperature;
- sunlight;
- · humidity;
- vibration

3 how to maintain the integrity of the substance or mixture by using

- stabilizers:
 - · antioxidants.

4 other advice such as

- ventilation requirements;
- specific **designs for storage rooms or vessels** (including retention walls and ventilation);
- quantity limits under storage conditions (if relevant);
- packaging compatibilities.

It is possible to use of **storage precautionary statements** (codified with P4..), whose translations are already present in the CLP regulation in all the official languages of the European Union.

Remember to check the exposure scenarios of the contained substances, to verify whether there are any storage conditions that should be respected for safety reasons.

For example, if a substance has been evaluated as significant for the classification of a product and in its exposure scenario, relating to one or more identified uses, it is indicated to ensure mechanical ventilation with a given air exchange, this will have to be taken into account to decide whether this requirement is also applicable for the formulated product.

If it is, the necessary air exchange should be prescribed in this subsection, indicating that it is an operating condition required for the safe use of the product, as required by Article 31 of the REAHC Regulation.



THIRD STEP Specific end use(s)



If there is information on the safe use of the product, deriving from received or generated scenarios and differentiated according to specific end uses, it should be described in this subsection.

This shall be done by **specifying the operating conditions and the risk management measures**, separately for each identified use listed in subsection 1.2. At times, it might be necessary to also differentiate this information according to the individual activities (usually according to the PROC use descriptors).

For example, for biocidal products you may list, in addition to the uses identified in subsection 1.2, any additional uses for which the product has been authorised (e.g., wood protection, disinfection, sludge control, canned storage, etc.). You may also make a further reference to any technical booklets containing information concerning the quantity to be applied and the handling instructions for each type of use.



If the corresponding exposure scenarios are attached to the SDS, and they contain the necessary recommendations for safe handling and use, it is not necessary to use this subsection for detailed recommendations: a reference to the attached scenarios is sufficient For substances which do not require exposure scenarios, you may use this section to include information similar or equivalent to what would otherwise be provided in an exposure scenario.



In the case of mixtures for which a downstream chemical safety assessment has been made for a specific use, it is sufficient that the SDS and exposure scenarios are consistent with the chemical safety report of the mixture. It is not necessary to reconsider the chemical safety reports of each of the contained substances, at least for the use identified in the mixture's chemical safety report.