

HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES & ENVIRONMENTAL SAFETY

SAFETY TOPIC
JULY 2026



SAFETY

SAFE TODAY. HEALTHY TOMORROW. A BETTER ENVIRONMENT.



PROTECT PEOPLE.
PROTECT THE PLANET.
PROTECT OUR FUTURE.

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

Exposure to hazardous substances can harm employees, the environment, and the workplace:



HEALTH RISKS –

Chemicals, dust, fumes, and gases can cause burns, respiratory problems, poisoning, or long-term illnesses.



ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT –

Improper handling can lead to pollution, soil contamination, or water hazards.



LEGAL COMPLIANCE –

Following regulations avoids fines, shutdowns, and liability.



OPERATIONAL SAFETY –

Prevents accidents, fires, and chemical reactions.



RECOGNIZING THE HAZARDS

Common hazardous substance and environmental risks include



Chemicals, solvents, acids, or flammable liquids



Dust, fumes, or gases in confined spaces



Improper storage or labelling of hazardous materials



Spills or leaks that may contaminate soil or water



Lack of ventilation or PPE when handling chemicals



WORKPLACE EXPECTATIONS & POLICIES



SAFE HANDLING –

Use chemicals and hazardous substances according to SDS (Safety Data Sheets).



STORAGE –

Store hazardous materials in designated, secure, and labelled areas.



SPILL RESPONSE –

Follow procedures for containment, cleanup, and disposal.



REPORTING –

Report leaks, spills, or unsafe handling immediately.



PPE –

Always wear appropriate personal protective equipment when handling hazardous substances.



HOW TO STAY SAFE



Read and understand SDS before using chemicals.



Use proper PPE, including gloves, goggles, and respiratory protection.



Ensure proper ventilation in work areas.



Never mix chemicals unless instructed and trained.



Dispose of hazardous waste according to regulations.

GOOD FOR TODAY.
BETTER FOR
TOMORROW.



CONCLUSION

Managing hazardous substances and protecting the environment is essential for workplace safety and compliance. Awareness, proper handling, and adherence to safety procedures reduce risks to employees, the community, and the environment.



SHERQ
SOLUTIONS
Changing Safety Culture

DF SHERQ Solutions

Tel: 066 153 1669
email: danny@dfss.co.za
website: www.dfss.co.za