

The Texas Hazard Communication Act (revised 1993), codified as Chapter 502 of the Texas Health and Safety Code, requires public employers to provide employees with specific information on the hazards of chemicals to which employees may be exposed in the workplace. As required by law, your employer must provide you with certain information and training. A brief summary of the law follows.

Hazardous chemicals are any products or materials that present any physical or health hazards when used, unless they are exempted under the law. Some examples of more commonly used hazardous chemicals are fuels,

pesticides, herbicides, refrigerants, laboratory chemicals, cement, welding rods, etc.

Employers must develop a list of hazardous chemicals used or stored in the workplace in excess of 55 gallons or 500 pounds. This list shall be updated by the employer as necessary, but at least annually, and be made readily

the employer on the hazards of the chemicals and on measures they can take to protect themselves from those hazards. This training shall be repeated as needed, but at least whenever new hazards are introduced into the workplace or new information is received on the chemicals which are already present.

Employees who may be exposed to hazardous chemicals shall be provided with information on those chemicals.

Employees shall not be required to work with hazardous chemicals from unlabeled containers, except portable containers for immediate use, the contents of which are known to the user.

Employees have rights to:

- & access copies of MSDSs
- & information on their chemical exposures
- & receive training on chemical hazards
- & receive appropriate protective equipment
- & file complaints, assist inspectors, or testify against their employer

Employees may not be discharged or discriminated against in any manner for the exercise of any rights provided by this Act. A

EMPLOYERS MAY BE SUBJECT TO ADMINISTRATIVE PENALTIES AND CIVIL OR CRIMINAL FINES RANGING FROM \$50 TO \$100,000 FOR EACH VIOLATION OF THIS ACT

Further information may be obtained from: