

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS SAFETY WALK

SAFETY CHECKLIST HAZARDOUS MATERIAL STORAGE

Hazardous materials and related work practices can pose serious risks to employees" health and safety and lead to occupational diseases later on. The 'Vision Zero" prevention strategy aims to eliminate all workplace accidents and job-related illnesses. This can be achieved by continuously establishing and improving safety measures, with regular reviews being a crucial part of safety inspections, often called "Safety Walks.' This checklist for safe hazardous material storage helps ensure a thorough review of safety procedures for handling hazardous substances.



INCOMING GOODS INSPECTIONS

When goods arrive, hazardous substances are checked for proper labeling and safety data sheets, and samples are collected if needed. It's a good idea to designate someone to oversee storage and ensure compliance with safety measures.



Completed

- Did you verify that hazardous materials are properly labeled and that current safety data sheets are available upon receiving goods?
- Are employees performing quality control sampling of hazardous materials, and are these tasks done at a properly equipped and safe workstation?

Feedback/Suggestions for Improvement:

HAZARDOUS MATERIAL CONTAINER LABELING

Proper labeling of hazardous material containers is essential to ensure employees are aware of potential risks. Routine checks and upkeep of labeling are vital for maintaining a safe workplace and reducing the chances of accidents or hazardous exposure.



Completed

- Are all IBCs, drums, and containers correctly labeled with the hazardous material's name, hazard symbols, safety warnings, and any necessary manufacturer information?
 - Is the labeling placed in a clearly visible location on the container or packaging?
 - Is the label legible and resistant to chemicals, UV radiation, and other environmental factors?
 - Is the labeling in a language that is understandable to all employees?

Feedback/Suggestions for Improvement:







CONDITION AND QUALITY OF HAZARDOUS MATERIAL CONTAINERS

Hazardous material containers should be made from materials that are compatible with the chemicals they hold. It's essential that containers are tightly sealed to prevent any leaks of hazardous materials. Pressurized substance containers should have safety valves to reduce the risk of leaks or explosions.



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Are there any signs of corrosion or damage that could suggest the container material is incompatible with the chemicals?
Are there any signs of leaks or damage on the hazardous material containers?
Are the hazardous material containers made from materials that are appropriate for the stored chemicals, as specified in the safety data sheet?
Are safety valves or closures in place and functioning properly, particularly for containers holding pressurized or volatile substances?

${\bf Feedback/Suggestions\ for\ Improvement:}$

STORAGE ORGANIZATION AND EQUIPMENT

When organizing hazardous material storage, it's essential to categorize substances based on their properties and store them according to regulatory requirements. Proper labeling of hazardous materials and storage areas, along with the use of safety and warning signs, is essential for reducing risks and maintaining a safe work environment.



Completed

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	Are all storage areas labeled according to OSHA's Hazard Communication Standard (HCS)
	Are there substances that require restricted access, and are authorized personnel regularly trained on how to handle them?
	Are hazardous materials sorted by their properties and stored separately according to TRGS 510 standards?
	Is an operational instruction displayed for each hazardous material in the storage area?
	Is the weekly visual inspection of spill pallets performed?
	Are the required containment volumes being met?
	Is the storage temperature kept in accordance with the requirements for the hazardous materials?
	Are the necessary requirements for active storage, like technical ventilation, being provided?
	Is the storage equipment properly grounded to prevent explosion risks from sparks or static electricity?
	Is the storage equipment regularly inspected at suitable intervals for proper function, reliability, and effectiveness (is the inspection sticker current)?

 ${\bf Feedback/Suggestions\ for\ Improvement:}$







INTERNAL LOGISTICS

Internal transport of hazardous materials poses higher risks, as damage during transport can lead to uncontrolled spills and potentially severe outcomes. Thus, the employer must assess the risks associated with transport and implement appropriate safety measures to protect employees.



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Is a risk assessment performed before transporting hazardous materials within the facility, with necessary safety measures established and employees properly trained?
Is the hazardous material identified before transport based on its labeling?
Are hazardous material containers securely closed during transport?
Are suitable transport equipment used and are transport security measures applied?
Are the designated transport routes followed, and is there enough clearance from doors and walkways?

Feedback/Suggestions for Improvement:

WORKPLACE SAFETY MEASURES

When handling hazardous materials at work, protective measures must be followed as per OSHA standards. We recommend applying the "STOP Principle," which establishes the hierarchy of safety measures to ensure employee protection.



Completed

Are technical and organizational measures implemented as outlined in the operational instructions?
Are employees wearing the correct personal protective equipment (PPE) to safeguard against the hazards of the hazardous materials in use?
Are suitable tools and equipment used, mainly to prevent sparks in explosive or hazardous areas?
Are proper emergency measures and equipment, such as eye washes, emergency showers, and fire extinguishers, readily available near hazardous areas?
Is there enough absorbent material available to handle potential spills?
Are hazardous materials kept on-site for daily use (only for the day or less than 24 hours), or should they be stored (for more than a day or over 24 hours)?
Are proper measures in place to keep the workplace clean and organized to reduce exposure to hazardous materials?
Are legally required assessment standards, such as workplace exposure limits or acceptable and tolerance concentrations, followed and maintained?

Feedback/Suggestions for Improvement:

CLEANING AND DISPOSAL

When cleaning and disposing of hazardous material containers, it is crucial to wear the proper protective equipment. Disposal should adhere to relevant regulations and environmental standards. Empty hazardous material containers should be cleaned, emptied, and disposed of in accordance with safety data sheets and local regulations.



Completed	
	Are there clear guidelines for the proper disposal of chemicals and containers?
	Are emptied containers that might still have hazardous material residues handled safely, removed from the work area, and stored or disposed of correctly?
Feedback/Sug	gestions for Improvement:

DOCUMENTATION AND COMMUNICATION

Proper documentation and communication about hazardous materials are crucial for maintaining workplace safety. Clear documentation keeps employees informed about potential hazards and helps them implement necessary safety measures, while effective communication enhances teamwork and allows for rapid responses to potential danger situations.



Completed	
	Are safety data sheets available for all hazardous materials used and easily accessible?
	Are the substances listed in the hazardous materials inventory actually on site?
	Are risk assessments and inspection records for storage facilities properly documented?
	Is there a clear channel for communicating questions or concerns about hazardous materials?
	Do employees collaborate to identify and reduce safety risks?
	Are accidents and safety regulation violations properly documented?
Feedback/Suggestions for Improvement	

TRAINING

Provide training for all employees on the safe handling of hazardous materials, including how to recognize hazard signs and respond properly in case of accidents. Make sure that individuals participating in the Safety Walk have the required skills, promote open communication, and offer constructive feedback to enhance behaviors and conditions.



Completed	
	Have all employees received training on handling hazardous materials?
	Are regular trainings on emergency procedures conducted?
	Do all employees understand how to use personal protective equipment (PPE) and when it is necessary?

Feedback/Suggestions for Improvement:

Note: The checklist is a standardized guideline. Customize any specific measures based on your site's conditions.