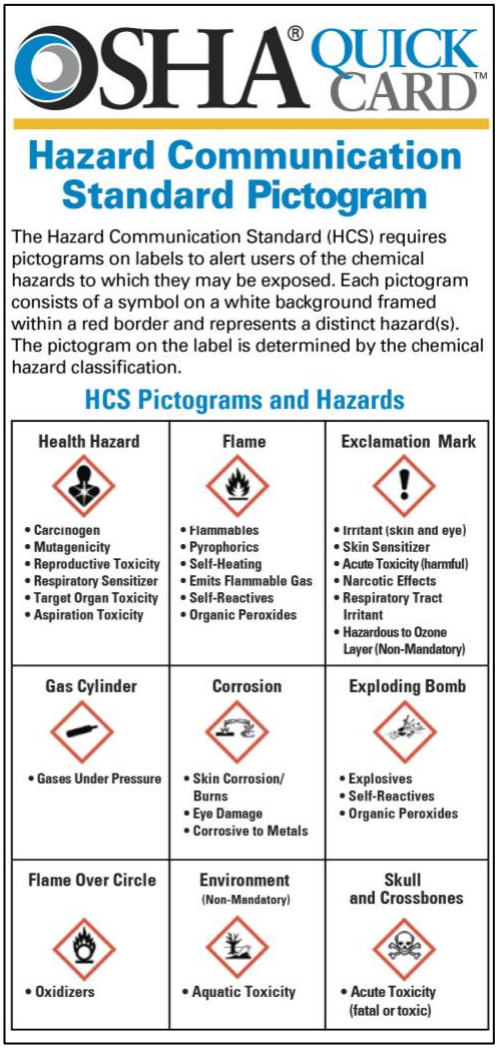
Hazard Communication

OSHA's hazard communication standard, also known as the "employee right-to-know" standard, is designed to help protect workers from the hazards of exposures to harmful chemicals. An important section of that standard has requirements for labeling containers of hazardous products. Here are some of the major requirements of that standard that are intended to protect you and me:

- All containers of hazardous products must be clearly labeled. This includes the name of the product/chemical(s), the name and address of the manufacturer or importer of the product, and appropriate hazard warning(s), (like "flammable", "toxic", "corrosive" . . .).
- Do not remove labels from containers. Doing so could lead to someone unknowingly being exposed to a harmful product. Report all unlabeled containers to your supervisor at once. This includes labels on cans, boxes, bags, bottles, barrels, cylinders, tanks, and similar storage vessels that contain a hazardous chemical.
- Make sure container labels are legible. If you cannot read the label, then the container might as well not be labeled at all. Report all containers with illegible labels, such as those which have been torn or deteriorated, to your supervisor at once.
- Do not pour the contents of a labeled container into an unlabeled secondary container. This includes spray bottles, fuel cans, sprayer tanks, dip pans, or other secondary containers used to contain the product. The only exceptions are if you take the time to first place a label that displays all the required information onto the new container, or mark the information onto the secondary container with a permanent marker. Check with your supervisor about labeling secondary containers when in doubt.
- Take the time to look at the label when you pick up a container. Before you use a product, confirm that you are familiar with the hazards of that particular product, as well as the proper procedures for its handling and use.



Following these simple rules may seem unimportant at times, but all it takes is one accidental exposure to a harmful chemical for you or a co-worker to get injured or become ill. And failure to adhere to these rules could also lead to the company receiving citations and monetary penalties if OSHA finds a violation in the workplace.

Any question or comment about these OSHA container labeling requirements? Please be sure to sign-in on the training certification form.

TOOLBOX TALKS
HAZARD COMMUNICATION

Meeting Conducted By: _____ Date: _____

Comments: _____

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Attendees:

Print	Signature	Print	Signature
1.		16.	
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