

Hazard Communication Standard and Safety Data Sheets Let the Car Program Guide you!

Simple Safety Steps can be implemented to significantly increase OSHA compliance at any auto recycling facility. The Certified Auto Recycler or CAR standards can provide members with the tools to audit and improve their yard safety compliance. A safety culture is easier to create than anticipated with Simple Safety Steps.

Start with the basics. Start with the rule that is the basis of OSHA regulations.

Does the Facility have a written Hazard Communication Standard (HCS) plan in which all Employees have been trained on HCS & GHS Standards?

The Hazard Communication Standard (HCS) is based on a simple concept - that *employees have both a need and a right to know the hazards and identities of the chemicals they are exposed to when working*. They also need to know what protective measures are available to prevent adverse effects from occurring.

But first the facility must prepare and maintain a written Hazard Communication Plan. A sample plan is available for download at <https://aracertification.com/guidance>. The written plan should narrate the procedures for keeping updated information about the chemical in the workplace and making that information available to the employees.

The plan requires that an individual is designated as the Safety Supervisor. The CAR standard asks for the name and email address of the facility's Safety Supervisor.

Conduct an inventory of chemicals in the workplace. Maintain this list along with the corresponding Safety Data Sheets (SDS). Under the provisions of the Hazard Communication Standard, employers are responsible for informing employees of the hazards and the identities of workplace chemicals to which they are exposed. Do this with Safety Data Sheets! The SDS book should be available to employee in the area where the chemicals are used and/or stored.

The CAR standards asks, **Are Workplace chemicals listed in an Inventory and the corresponding Safety Data Sheets (SDS) information complete, up-to-date and easily accessible?** *Document Verification Required in the CAR program*. Material Safety Data Sheet pre-date SDS and should be replaced with updated versions every five years.

In 2012, in addition to changing the format of MSDS to SDS the Haz Comm rule added labeling requirements that also lined up with other United Nations members to standardize workplace chemical awareness. That is the reason the secondary labels required in the workplace are called GHS or Globally Harmonized System of chemical identification labels.

OSHA has labelling requirements under the Globally Harmonized System

The Hazard Communication Standard or HCS has labeling requirements that display the *GHS* identification of chemicals, signal words, pictograms and precautionary statements. The type of label required in the workplace is called a secondary label (not for transport). Containers of all sizes must be labeled. One label can meet environmental and NFPA requirements too.

