

Hazard Communication

This standard is designed to ensure that employers and employees know about hazardous chemicals in the workplace and how to protect themselves. Employers with employees who may be exposed to hazardous chemicals in the workplace must prepare and implement a written Hazard Communication Program and comply with other requirements of the standard.

OSHA Resources

Standards	<u>29 CFR 1910.1200</u>
OSHA Webpage	<u>OSHA Safety and Health Topics Page: Hazard Communication – OSHA Standards</u>
OSHA Support Fact Sheet	<u>OSHA Fact Sheet: OSHA Haz Com Support</u>
Sample Program	<u>Model Plans and Programs for the OSHA Bloodborne Pathogens and Hazard Communications Standards</u> . OSHA Publication 3186 (2003).
Other	<div data-bbox="500 1251 932 1575"></div> <p>Download [1.4 MB <u>ZIP File*</u>]</p>

NYS Right-to-Know Law

[Link to NYS Right-to-Know](#)

The Hazard Communication Standard is a federal Law adopted by state law through the PESH Act, which is enforced by the Public Employees Safety and Health Division of the NYS Department of Labor.

The Right-to-Know (RTK) Law is a separate *state law* which PESH monitors for compliance. The RTK Law guarantees state and municipal employees the right to information, training and education regarding toxic substances in the workplace.

There are differences between the two standards. Included in the RTK program are the following:

- *Annual* training and information about hazardous chemicals in the workplace
- A listing of hazardous chemicals used, stored or produced in the workplace
- A Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) for each hazardous chemical used, stored or produced in the workplace
- Procedures to assure that containers of hazardous chemicals are properly labeled

A RTK poster must be posted in the workplace; a PDF version of the poster is available [here](#). Additionally, employers must keep a record of the name, address, and social security number (for tracking purposes) of every employee who handles or uses toxic substances (listed in Subpart Z of 29 CFR 1910). These records must be maintained for forty years and shall be made available to affected employees, former employees, a designated physician, or a representative of the Commissioner of Health.