



Weekly Safety Tip

"Your Connection for Workplace Safety"

Phone: 920-208-7520

We're about service, commitment, results, and accountability!

Our Weekly Safety Tip provides valuable and current safety information relevant for Work, Home & Play.

And, you will be kept current on the latest Safety Compliance issues.



SCI SAFETY NEWS OR TIP



SCI OSHA NEWS OR COMPLIANCE



SCI HEALTHYLIVING and WELLNESS NEWS

We want to hear from you! Send us your feedback and give us ideas for future safety topics.

Let us know how you feel about our new look!

Safety Slogan

**"When Thunder Roars,
Go Indoors!"
James Lehrke-SCI**

of the week

SCI Safety Tip: Tornado Awareness Month (Part 2)

Sources: <http://www.spc.noaa.gov/faq/tornado/safety.html>

WHAT TO DO...

In a house with a basement: Avoid windows. Get in the basement and under some kind of sturdy protection (heavy table or work bench), or cover yourself with a [mattress](#) or sleeping bag. Know where very heavy objects rest on the floor above (pianos, refrigerators, waterbeds, etc.) and do not go under them. They may fall down through a weakened floor and crush you. Head protection, such as a helmet, can offer some protection also.

In a house with no basement, a dorm, or an apartment:

Avoid windows. Go to the lowest floor, small center room (like a bathroom or closet), [under a stairwell](#), or in an interior hallway with no windows. Crouch as low as possible to the floor, facing down; and cover your head with your hands. A [bath tub](#) may offer a shell of partial protection. Even in an interior room, you should cover yourself with some sort of thick padding ([mattress](#), blankets, etc.), to protect against falling debris in case the roof and ceiling fail. A helmet can offer some protection against head injury.

In an office building, hospital, nursing home or skyscraper: Go directly to an enclosed, windowless area in the center of the building -- *away from glass* and on the lowest floor possible. Then, crouch down and cover your head. Interior stairwells are usually good places to take shelter, and if not crowded, allow you to get to a lower level quickly. Stay off the elevators; you could be trapped in them if the power is lost.

In a mobile home: Get out! Even if your home is tied down, it is not as safe as an underground shelter or permanent, sturdy building. Go to one of those shelters, or to a nearby permanent structure, using your tornado evacuation plan. Most tornadoes can destroy even tied-down mobile homes; and it is best not to play the low odds that yours will make it. [This mobile-home safety video](#) from the State of Missouri may be useful in developing your plan.

At school: Follow the drill! Go to the interior hall or room in an orderly way as you are told. Crouch low, head down, and protect the back of your head with your arms. Stay away from windows and large open rooms like gyms and auditoriums.

In a car or truck: Vehicles are [extremely risky](#) in a tornado. There is no safe option when caught in a tornado in a car, just slightly less-dangerous ones. If the tornado is visible, far away, and the traffic is light, you may be able to drive out of its path by moving at right angles to the tornado. Seek shelter in a sturdy building, or underground if possible. If you are caught by extreme winds or flying debris, park the car as quickly and safely as possible -- out of the traffic lanes. Stay in the car with the seat belt on. Put your head down below the windows; cover your head with your hands and

a blanket, coat, or other cushion if possible. If you can safely get noticeably lower than the level of the roadway, leave your car and lie in that area, covering your head with your hands. [Avoid seeking shelter under bridges](#), which can create deadly traffic hazards while offering little protection against flying debris.

In the open outdoors: If possible, seek shelter in a sturdy building. If not, lie flat and face-down on low ground, protecting the back of your head with your arms. Get as far away from trees and cars as you can; they may be blown onto you in a tornado.

In a shopping mall or large store: Do not panic. Watch for others. Move as quickly as possible to an interior bathroom, storage room or other small enclosed area, away from windows.

In a church or theater: Do not panic. If possible, move quickly but orderly to an interior bathroom or hallway, away from windows. Crouch face-down and protect your head with your arms. If there is no time to do that, get under the seats or pews, protecting your head with your arms or hands.

SCI OSHA Compliance: Major Changes to HazCom—OSHA Finalizes GHS

Source: www.blr.com

Date: March 21, 2012

OSHA has just announced that it will be finalizing the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labeling of Chemicals (GHS) in the Federal Register of March 26, 2012. The good news here is you've got a lot of lead time to get in compliance with the updated hazard communication standard.



If you are a chemical manufacturer, importer, and/or distributor or an employer with hazardous chemicals in your workplace, the GHS is going to affect your operations. Here's what you need to know.

Major Changes to the Hazard Communication Standard

Hazard Classification: There are specific criteria for the classification of health and physical hazards, but the big change here is the classification of mixtures.

Labels: Labels will include a harmonized signal word, pictogram, hazard statement, and precautionary statement for each hazard class and category.

Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDSs) to become Safety Data Sheets (SDSs): SDSs have a 16-section format.

Training: Workers must be trained on new labels and SDSs by December 1, 2013.

Important GHS Dates

OSHA is rolling out implementation of GHS over the next 4 years. Here are the deadlines:

December 1, 2013--Employees must be trained on the new labels and SDSs.

June 1, 2015--Chemical manufacturers, importers, distributors, and employers have to be in compliance with the all of the GHS requirements, except voluntary compliance with GHS label (you have until December 1, 2015 for this).

December 1, 2015--Chemical manufacturers, importers, and distributors must include the GHS-compliant label in all shipments of chemical containers.

June 1, 2016--All employers that use, handle, and store chemicals have to update alternative workplace labeling and hazard communication program as necessary, and provide additional employee training for newly identified physical or health hazards.

GHS and Combustible Dust

At a media event held March 20, 2012, to announce the GHS, there were lots of inquiries about the classification of combustible dust within the new GHS. The standard requires that combustible dust hazards be addressed on labels and safety data sheets (SDSs).

For more information on how to address combustible dust, Michaels referred to existing guidance, [The Combustible Dust National Emphasis Program Directive CPL 03-00-008](#). The directive includes an operative definition, as well as provides information about current responsibilities in this area. In addition, there are a number of voluntary industry consensus standards (particularly those of the NFPA) that address combustible dust.

What's Next On OSHA's Agenda?

Dr. Michaels was also asked at the press event if this update to the Hazard Communication Standard was going to be the only significant rule OSHA will get to accomplish this year. 2012 being an election year I thought this was an interesting question. Michaels said that OSHA was hard at work on a lot of things--electrical power generation being one of the things in the pipeline. I guess we'll wait and see.

HEALTHY BITES**Quick Tips for Healthy Living**

PREVEA
Health & Wellness

Take simple steps to prevent skin cancer. Stay in the shade between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. The sun's rays are the strongest from mid-morning to late afternoon. Try to stay out of the sun during these hours. Use sunscreen with SPF 15 or higher. Use sunscreen with both UVA and UVB protection. To get the most protection

SCI OSHA Compliance: What You Need to Know About GHS (Part 4)**Source:** www.blr.com**Date:** March 20, 2012

KL: And we'll see those OMB changes when the rule gets finalized, right?

DG: Yes, we'll have some idea what was required, but we won't know that yet until the new rule is published by OSHA.

KL: Could you tell me who's going to be affected by this GHS rule? What are these companies going to have to do differently when it becomes law?

DG: Sure. The "who" is basically about 5 million employers around the country: businesses, in some states public sector organizations like state and local governments in those states that have their own OSHA rules are going to have to comply.



What do you think?

Send us an email at:

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See our bold new look @

<http://www.safetyconnections.com/>

There are really 2 groups of employers that have to comply with different requirements. The first is about 90,000 chemical manufacturers and importers. They're going to have to make three changes in the way they classify chemicals, put information on material safety data sheets, and on labels. The other group are the 5 million or so companies that use or handle or store chemicals, and they also have to provide information for any employees that handle or use the chemicals, they have to provide information to those employees about physical and health hazards of exposure. So that's the "who."

*In Loving
Memory of Jessica Lefirke*