CHEMSTATION®

(800) 554-8265 www.chemstation.com

Vol. XVII No. 4, April 2005

MAN OF THE MILLENNIUM?

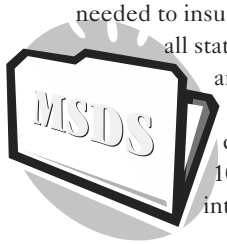


In recent years the Arts & Entertainment network (A&E) proclaimed Johannes Gutenberg the person of the millennium. The unofficial title was bestowed on him because his contribution to society (the printing press) was considered to have the greatest impact on civilization in the last 1,000 years. In 1440 Gutenberg completed his wooden press that used metal moving type. His drive to innovate apparently was caused by continued indebtedness. After he developed a printing press to make multiple copies, he formed a partnership to produce 200, 2-volume copies of the Bible on vellum. Apparently, it was not successful enough to avoid bankruptcy and he lost the press to his creditors.

Printing has come a long way since then and flexography is the fastest growing conventional printing process…especially in packaging such as corrugated containers and flexible films. It has also made significant advances in publication printing, particularly newspapers. Steel or ceramic anilox rollers (which contain many tiny holes that hold ink) are used to give the correct amount of ink to the flexographic plate.

ChemStation has kept up with this industry and has created a line of products for cleaning anilox rollers as well as the plates and equipment. For more information, contact your Account Representative.

MSDSs, A BRIEF HISTORY



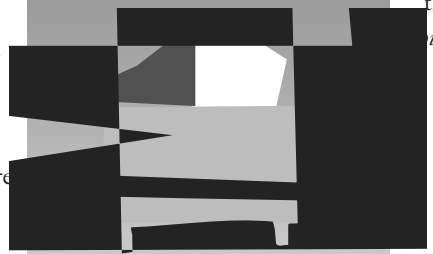
Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) contain printed material concerning a hazardous chemical, as prescribed by law. They contain basic information needed to insure the safety and health of the user at all states of its manufacture, storage, use, and disposal. These MSDSs developed out of the chemical data sheets that chemists have been using for the past 100+ years and have a long and interesting history.

The earliest mention of some of the requirements covered in the MSDS goes back into the dawn of time when information was exchanged verbally on the materials used as medicines and for dyes. The earliest written material (dating over 4,000 years) has been found in the tombs of the Egyptians. By the middle of the 19th century, manufacturers were supplying their customers with some sort of data sheet, either along with their product or on demand. Finally, on November 25, 1983 OSHA issued its final regulations. Under this ruling, MSDSs were required for all shipments of hazardous chemicals leaving the manufacturers' workplace.

ChemStation issues a full 16-section MSDS with every product it delivers to your place of business. A copy of the MSDS should be kept on file with other MSDSs and everyone at your facility should know the location of the MSDS file. We also have a one-page fact sheet, "How to Read an MSDS." They are available in English or Spanish and you can get one (or more) by asking your Account Representative.

APRIL OCCASIONS

The fourth month of the year is National Kite Month (celebrates kiting with more than 600 events throughout the United States). The week of April 17-23 is National Wildlife Week. On April 3, Daylight Saving Time begins (set your clocks forward an hour). April 4 holds two distinctions; it's National Workplace Napping Day and on April 4, 1949, 12 nations signed the treaty creating NATO (North Atlantic Treaty Organization) uniting for common military defense against the threat of Soviet expansion in Western Europe. After a break of 1,500 years, the first Olympics of the modern era was held in Athens, Greece beginning April 6, 1896. On April 15, 1912, the luxury liner Titanic with 2,224 persons on board sank at 2:27 a.m., after striking an iceberg just before midnight. April 24, 1800 is the day the Library of Congress was established.



THE SERIOUS THREAT OF EXTENSION CORDS

Even when used properly, extension cords, power strips, and surge protectors can pose a serious fire and electrocution threat.

The following information can help protect you at work and at home:

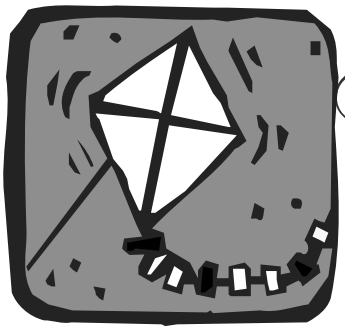
- Use extension cords only when necessary and only on a temporary basis.
- Look for a certification label from an independent testing lab such as UL or ETL on the package and on the product itself.
- Use cords with polarized plugs or grounded three-pronged plugs.
- High wattage appliances need special, heavy-duty extension cords.
- Extension cords used outside should be specifically designed for such use.
- Always insert plugs fully so that no parts of the prongs are exposed.
- Never cover cords with rugs or other objects. Trapped heat can result in a fire.
- Don't overload cords with too many appliances.
- If a cord feels hot to the touch, stop using it and throw it away.

Source: J.J. Keller

Go Fly a Kite!

Kites date back as far as 3,000 years ago in China. For years, many of us have considered the kite as a trivial toy or "kiting" as a great family activity. History tells us that a kite is so much more.

Kites and Science: Benjamin Franklin experimented with kites to investigate atmospheric electricity, and kite studies were also made by inventor, Alexander Graham Bell. Beginning in the 1890s and continuing for about 40 years, box kites were used for sending meteorologic instruments aloft to measure wind velocity, temperature, barometric pressure, and humidity.



Kites and Flight: Wilbur and Orville Wright are credited with the invention (in 1903) of the airplane. The Wright brothers were also skilled in kite flying and it was their years of kite flying that directly led to the invention of the airplane.

Kites during War: In the late 19th and early 20th Centuries, kites were used for lifting military observers to heights from which they could observe the disposition of enemy forces. During WWII (1939-1945), kites were also used as gunnery targets.

Visit us at:
www.chemstation.com

Send your comments to:

Printed on recycled paper

Soapbox

The difference between tax avoidance and tax evasion is the thickness of a prison wall. – *Denis Healey*

Perspicuous is an oxymoron.

Copywight 1994, Elmer Fudd. All wights wesewved.

When you are finally holding all the cards, why does everyone else decide to play chess?

What does it mean to pre-board? Do you get on before you get on? – *George Carlin*

SENILE.COM found…Out of Memory

The first rule of holes: if you are in one, stop digging.

Shin, n. A device for finding furniture in the dark.

A guy ought to be very careful in making predictions, especially about the future. – *Yogi Berra*

For people who like peace and quiet: a phoneless cord.

Diplomacy, n. The art of letting someone have your way.

It is a scientific fact that your body will not absorb cholesterol if you take it from another person's plate.

Grandparents, n. The people who think your children are wonderful even though they're sure you're not rearing them right.

Never allow your schooling to interfere with your education. – *Mark Twain*

If at first you DO succeed, try not to look astonished.

Budget, n. A method for going broke methodically.

BREAKFAST.COM Halted…Cereal port not responding.

You know you're getting old when you're walking through a busy shopping center and somebody slightly familiar is walking towards you. As you desperately search for a name, you get close enough to realize you're walking towards a mirror.