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# INSIGHTS

ChemStation




## MSDS or Guess? What Do Your Workers Do?

MSDSs can only do their job and help protect against chemical hazards if employees actually use them. The MSDS should be the main resource employees rely on when they have questions about chemical hazards and precautions. But do they actually consult the MSDS or do they guess?

One effective way to instill the essential safety habit of actively using MSDSs is to hold refresher training on the different hazardous chemicals employees work with. And, there are plenty of reasons to justify such a training session:

- **A new chemical** is introduced into the workplace
- **A new use** or process for a chemical is introduced
- **A new MSDS form** – either a different format, or revised information – comes into the workplace
- **New employees** entering the workforce may not be familiar with chemical safety and rules for using it



## 6,250

That is the amount of landfill waste (in tons) that could be avoided if half the kids in America traded Halloween costumes instead of buying new ones. Scared by that statistic? This year, send out your little goblins in getups that you borrow on National Costume Swap Day (October 8).

Ask friends to participate with you. Visit greenhalloween.org/CostumeSwap to find an in-person or online swap event.

## THINKING GREEN

## Green-Up Your Facility

Businesses that incorporate eco-friendly initiatives aren't just helping save the Earth – they also can create a healthier, more productive work environment for their employees.

Consider these options:

- "Green" your cleaning and maintenance management operations by using more environmentally friendly cleaning products and organic, synthetic filters for equipment.
- Promote recycling. Distribute recycling containers around your facility to encourage separation of waste and recyclable items. Think beyond cans, glass, and paper.
- Consider composting food waste, including coffee grounds, from your eating areas and break rooms to improve the environment and reduce the cost of the waste stream.
- Celebrate events such as Earth Day and World Water Day to raise awareness and promote involvement.
- Consider adding a fitness center to promote exercise and general health and well-being.

## The Shape of Things

Sometimes it's impossible to eliminate a workplace hazard. That's where signs, labels, and other markings come in as the last defense measure you can take to protect your workers. Trouble is…these marking elements are not taught in school and many people don't distinguish between them.

**Signal words:**

*Danger* – immediate severe hazard

*Warning* – potential for a severe hazard

*Caution* – potential for a moderate hazard

*Notice* – safety information

**Shapes:**

*Triangle or diamond* – hazard alert

*Circle with slash from upper left to lower right* – workplace prohibitions

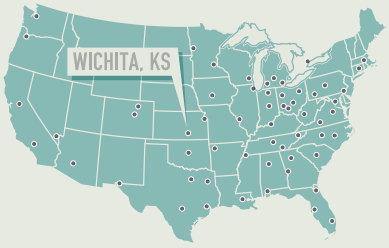
*Circle* – personal protective equipment indicator

*Square or rectangle* – exit or equipment location

## Here We Grow Again!

For the second time this year, we have the pleasure to announce the opening of another Manufacturing Center. The newest dot on the map is right smack in the center of the United States in Wichita and is our first facility in Kansas.

ChemStation of Wichita will open for business in October to supply customers with environmentally safe, water-based detergents and process chemicals. In this our 27th year of "Keeping it Clean" with our Refill…Not Landfill system, we continue to provide cleaning products without contaminating the countryside.



# Don't Bury Your Technotrash

"E-waste" is the fastest-growing source of consumer trash. But don't dump your old computers, cell phones, and other devices in a landfill. Your trash could be someone else's treasure.

**Sell It:** Buyers at *eBay* and *Amazon.com* are always looking for deals. If you don't want the hassle of listing and shipping your items, find an online trading assistant at http://ebaytradingassistant.com.

**Donate It:** ReCellular resells phones it can find buyers for and recycles the rest. Give desktop computers and peripherals to the *National Cristina Foundation* and the *World Computer Exchange*. To establish the value of donated items, use *Its Deductible* (free at www.turbotax.com). To clear your computer's hard drive, use a free disk-wiping product, such as *Active@KillDisk* or *Darik's Boot* and *Nuke*.

**Recycle It:** Some retailers and many manufacturers take back electronics for recycling or resale. *Best Buy* stores accept most electronics. *Staples* stores take personal electronics (such as PDAs, cell phones, and digital cameras) free but charge $10 to take back office electronics. *Call2Recycle* picks up cell phones and rechargeable batteries from many locations including *Radio Shack* and *Home Depot* stores (to find the nearest drop-off location, visit www.call2recycle.org).



## SOAPBOX

When I was young, I found out that the big toe always ends up making a hole in a sock. So I stopped wearing socks.
*–Albert Einstein*

Too many people think they are being creative when they are just being different.

Never miss a good chance to shut up.

A conclusion is simply the place where you got tired of thinking.

The probability of someone watching you is proportional to the stupidity of your action.

Dogs have masters. Cats have staff.

It's not how good your work is, it's how well you explain it.

You're never too old to learn something stupid.


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## By the Numbers



Gallons of soap delivered:
**168,977,310** since 1984



Empty drums not in landfills:
**3,072,315** since 1984