HAZMATS

Hazmats: Hazardous Material:

Toxicology: The study of harmful effects of chemicals on human and environmental health.

Toxicity: acute: sudden

   Chronic: over a period of years

   Carcinogenic: cancer- causing

Threshold level: the level below which no ill effects are observed

Dose: The amount of chemical taken at once.

Response: The effect

The nature of chemical hazards: Hazmats:

1) Ignitability: Substances that catch fire readily (e.g. gasoline and alcohol)
2) Corrosivity: Substance that corrodes storage tanks and equipment (e.g. acids)
3) Reactivity: Substance that are chemically unstable and may explode or create toxic fumes when mixed with water (e.g. explosives, elemental phosphorus and concentrated sulfuric acids)
4) Toxicity: Substances that are injurious to health when they are ingested or inhaled (e.g. chlorine gas, ammonia, pesticides and formaldehyde).
5) Radioactivity material: Cause radioactivity emissions: alpha particle or helium nucleus, beta particle or electrons, gamma rays or electromagnetic radiation (e.g. uranium, radium, plutonium)

Authorities:

Environmental Protection Agency (EPA): A federal agency with environmental protection regulatory and enforcement authority.

Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA): Part of US department of Labor. The regulatory and enforcement agency for safety and health in most US industrial sectors.

Air Quality Management District (AQMD): Smog Control agency

American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists (ACGIH): An organization of professionals engaged in occupational safety and health programs.

The Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS)