









## WHMIS Reference Guide

Division	The symbol means...	The product ...	Precautions ...
	Class A Compressed Gases	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Presents an explosion hazard since the container is under pressure</li> <li>• May explode if heated during a fire</li> <li>• May explode if dropped or knocked over</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Handle with care, do not allow the cylinder to fall, etc.</li> <li>• Keep away from potential sources of ignition</li> <li>• Store in appropriate area, as indicated by the supervisor</li> </ul>
	Class B Flammable and Combustible materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Can burn and therefore presents a fire hazard</li> <li>• May burn at relatively low temperatures; flammable material ignites at lower temperatures comparatively to combustible material</li> <li>• Can spontaneously ignite when exposed to air or may release flammable gases when in contact with water</li> <li>• May present a fire hazard when exposed to heat, sparks, or open flame, or when under the force of friction</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Keep away from sources of heat</li> <li>• Keep away from oxidizing material</li> <li>• Do not smoke while working with product or when near product</li> <li>• Store in appropriate cool, dry ventilated area, as indicated by the supervisor</li> </ul>
	Class C Oxidizing Material	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Presents a fire and/or explosion hazard when in contact with flammable or combustible material</li> <li>• May ignite when in contact with combustible material, like wood</li> <li>• May react violently or explode when in contact with flammable material like gasoline</li> <li>• May irritate and burn the skin or eyes when in contact</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Keep away from all flammable and combustible material and store in appropriate cool, dry, ventilated area, as indicated by the supervisor</li> <li>• Keep away from ignition sources</li> <li>• Never smoke when working with the product</li> <li>• Use appropriate personal protective equipment</li> </ul>
	Class D Division 1 Toxic material having serious and immediate effects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Potentially lethal poisonous substance (immediate)</li> <li>• May be lethal or may cause permanent damage if absorbed into the body</li> <li>• May irritate and burn the skin or eyes when in contact</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Handle product with diligent care</li> <li>• Avoid contact with the skin and eyes</li> <li>• Use appropriate personal protective equipment</li> <li>• Avoid inhalation by working in well ventilated areas or by using appropriate respiratory protection, or both</li> <li>• Wash hands or shower after use</li> <li>• Store in appropriate cool, dry ventilated area, as indicated by the supervisor</li> </ul>
	Class D Division 2 Toxic material having other effects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Poisonous substance with long-term health effects</li> <li>• May be lethal or may cause permanent damage over repeated exposures</li> <li>• May irritate the skin or eyes when in contact</li> <li>• May be an allergen, which produces an allergic response to the material</li> <li>• May cause cancer</li> <li>• May produce congenital malformations or sterility</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Avoid contact with the skin and eyes</li> <li>• Use appropriate personal protective equipment</li> <li>• Avoid inhalation by working in well ventilated areas or by using appropriate respiratory protection, or both</li> <li>• Store in appropriate cool, dry ventilated area, as indicated by the supervisor</li> </ul>
	Class D Division 3 Infectious Material	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• May cause a serious infectious disease which may be lethal</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Take all precautions to avoid contamination</li> <li>• Only use predetermined personal protective equipment in order to handle this material</li> <li>• Handle in designated areas where engineering controls area available</li> </ul>
	Class E Corrosive Material	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• May cause a serious irritation to the skin or eyes upon contact</li> <li>• May cause severe tissue damage during prolonged contact</li> <li>• May be very irritating if inhaled</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Keep containers closed</li> <li>• Avoid contact with the skin and eyes</li> <li>• Use appropriate personal protective equipment</li> <li>• Avoid inhalation by working in well ventilated areas or by using appropriate respiratory protection, or both</li> </ul>
	Class F Dangerously Reactive Material	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Very unstable</li> <li>• May react with water and emit toxic or flammable gases</li> <li>• May explode under impact, under the force of friction, or when heated</li> <li>• May explode if heated while enclosed in a container</li> <li>• Substantial polymerisation may occur</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Keep away from sources of heat</li> <li>• Handle with care, do not allow containers to fall, etc</li> <li>• Store in appropriate cool, dry ventilated area, as indicated by the supervisor</li> </ul>

VERIFY THAT MSDS SHEETS ARE NOT MORE THAN THREE (3) YEARS OLD.

This Operational Guide was created by **GroupEHS** on 2007-10-30 for those participants having completed the “**WHMIS**” or “**WHMIS Refresher**” training courses.