

#### Introduction

The material safety data sheet (MSDS) is a document that is full of helpful information about the specific hazardous material you are dealing with. The MSDS is comprised of 16 sections that will assist you in managing the incident and keeping everyone safe. In Part 1, we looked at the first eight sections of the MSDS. As a refresher, they were:

- Section I** – Chemical Products and Company Information
- Section II** – Composition/Information on Ingredients
- Section III** – Hazards Identification
- Section IV** – First Aid Measures
- Section V** – Fire Fighting Measures
- Section VI** – Accidental Release Measures
- Section VII** – Handling and Storage
- Section VIII** – Exposure Controls and Personal Protection

In Part 2, we are going to look at the remaining eight sections.

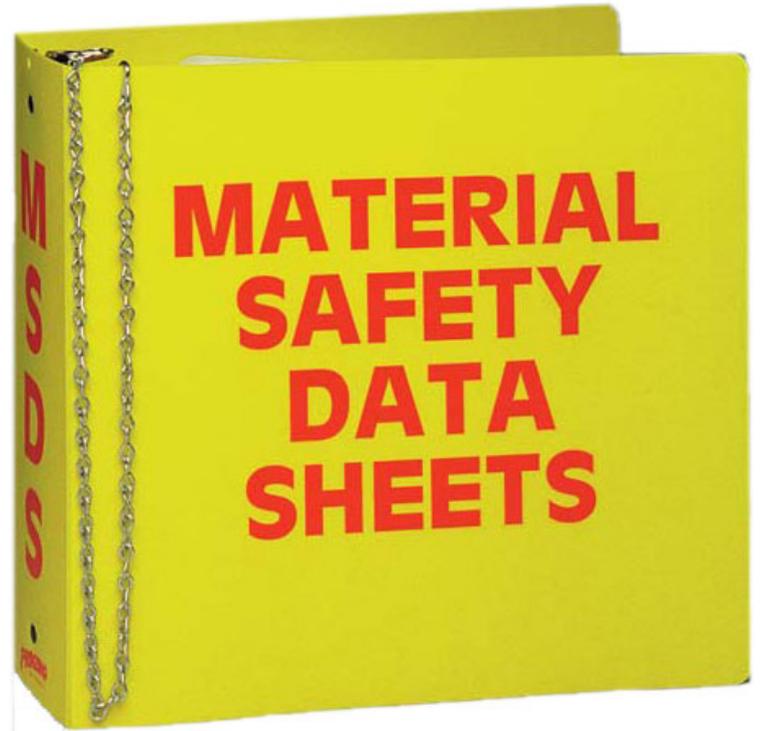
**Section IX:** Physical and Chemical Properties – This section covers the physical data that responders should be looking at. It includes such items as boiling points, evaporation rates, specific gravity and more. Why this section is so important is because it will help you predict how the material will act or react.

**Section X:** Stability and Reactivity – Materials can and will react to one and other. This section contains information on chemical incompatibilities, conditions that need avoiding and decomposition of the material.

**Section XI:** Toxicological Information – The information in this section covers toxicity testing of the materials. In general, the tests reflect results from animal testing. The data will include acute, sub-chronic and chronic studies.

**Section XII:** Ecological Information – This section will assist the responders with the effects a chemical might have on the environment. Obviously, environmental contamination can affect the air, soil and the water in and around a chemical release.

**Section XIII:** Disposal Considerations – With any spill or release, clean-up and disposal become critical. There-



fore, proper disposal information is included to met the federal, state and local regulations.

**Section XIV:** Transportation Information – The U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) hazardous materials descriptions will apply for the proper identification, shipping and handling of the material. This will include the shipping name, hazard class and ID numbers (UN or NA numbers).

**Section XV:** Regulatory Information – This will include the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), Superfund Amendment and Reauthorization Act (SARA), Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA), Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) and the Clean Water Act (CWA).

**Section XVI:** Other Information – This section will provide a location for additional information that might be of help to responders. Information could list references, keys and legends or preparation and revision indicators. Hazard rating systems provide a simple, recognizable means for evaluating the material's hazards.

–Prepared by Russell Merrick