Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) are intended to protect employee and public health and the environment through provision of critical information on chemical products that may be highly hazardous if not used or handled appropriately. Chemical manufacturers and importers are required to obtain or develop MSDS for each hazardous chemical they produce or import. Distributors are responsible for ensuring that their customers are provided a copy of these MSDS sheets. Employers must have a MSDS for each hazardous material which they use. There are several well-known standards which provide guidance on content and preparation of MSDS, namely, Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labeling of Chemicals, Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA, USA) standard on hazard communication. In the Indian context, the Schedule 9 of The Manufacture, Storage and Import of Hazardous Chemical Rules (MSIHCR), provides relevant guidance on the content of MSDS. MSDS are created for a variety of hazardous substances including compressed gases, flammable and combustible liquids, oxidizing materials, poisonous or infectious material, corrosive material and dangerously reactive chemicals. MSDS preparation involves detailing the toxicity, use, storage, handling and emergency procedures of hazardous materials. The MSDS data sheet describes possible hazards involved with the product and measures that should be taken in order to minimize or avoid adverse outcomes that may result from exposure, or improper storage or handling of hazardous substances. A typical MSDS is required to embody 16 sections under which the aforementioned detailed information may be provided. Each detail provided in a MSDS needs to be compliant with the most current requirements of an adopted standard. In general, all MSDS must comply with a globally standardized set of requirements. This ensures that countries around the world provide comprehensive and consistent information on the transportation and use of potentially dangerous chemical substances or mixtures.

The proposed CEP course is aimed to provide general guidance on collection of information, as well as on compiling the MSDS. This includes making sure to list all potential health hazards and safe-handling requirements, taking note of who the intended user the MSDS is written for, to ensure it addresses the specific needs of the user, and stating all information with clarity and concision.

The specific content of the course will include the following topics:

- Introduction to MSDS and its importance
- Introduction to MSIHCR / OSHA / GHS guidelines for MSDS preparation
- Content of sections in a MSDS
- Detailed information of each MSDS section and its importance
- Generation and compilation of hazard information for preparation of MSDS
- Example procedure on preparation of MSDS

The course is aimed for professionals engaged with the task of generation of information for and preparation of MSDS: Employees, Quality Control / Quality Assurance / Environmental Assurance Managers, HSE Engineers, Production Engineers, R&D Scientists, Warehouse Managers.

**DEVELOPING MATERIAL SAFETY DATA SHEETS**

To protect employee and public health and the environment through provision of critical information on chemical products