

Chemical Handling

Standard



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1 Introduction

This standard describes the measures which shall be taken to enable safe and environmental sound handling of chemicals, when working on behalf of Ericsson. This includes the following:

- Minimize the risks with handling of chemicals, wherever possible, by choosing the safest possible alternative.
- Ensure that provisions are made to protect persons handling chemicals from risks, as well as to protect the environment.
- Ensure that provisions made are meeting local legal applicable legislation for chemical handling.
- Ensure that risks associated with working with chemicals are identified, assessed, and effectively managed (e.g. hazards, exposure) as part of Risk Assessment.
- Establish arrangements for the issue, use and storage of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE).
- Establish arrangements for the issue, use and storage of protective equipment for environment.

Where local legislation exceeds requirements in this instruction then local legislative requirements shall apply. This applies to the chemical's usage life stages e.g. usage, storage and transport of chemicals. Waste management derived from chemicals shall be classified as hazardous waste and is not covered in this instruction.

2 Definitions

"Chemical handling" includes usage, storage and transport of chemicals.

"Local Safety Instruction" means a locally made safety instruction based on information from the Safety Data Sheet and local conditions.

"Safety Data Sheet" means manufacturer information for commercial users about the risks associated with a specific chemical and safety precautions that shall be taken for safe use. The exact format of a Safety Data Sheet (SDS) may vary depending on local regulations.



3 Responsibilities

3.1 Managers/Responsible person

Involved manager/responsible person shall ensure that:

- employees working with chemicals shall be appropriately trained and use relevant Personal Protective Equipment (PPE),
- employees who suffer from known medical conditions that could be exacerbated using certain chemicals, shall be excluded from work task including such chemicals, and
- pregnant employees are not exposed to chemicals.

3.2 Individuals handling chemicals

Employees shall inform their employer of health conditions (or pregnancy) that may be impacted by chemicals.

Anyone who handles chemicals must use the appropriate PPE, when this is stipulated by the Safety Data Sheet and defined as a mitigating action in the risk analysis.

4 Requirements

4.1 General requirements

The following requirements shall apply:

- A workplace Chemical Administrator shall be appointed, and has the following responsibilities:
 - managing chemical storage place,
 - maintaining chemical lists,
 - conducting routine inspections, and
 - training chemical users.
- A local risk assessment shall be made, risks mitigation/treatment plan created, and relevant control measures applied before the use of a chemical.
- Substance restrictions shall be followed : [The Ericsson Lists of Banned and Restricted Substances.](#)
- Employees working with chemicals shall be appropriately trained and use relevant [Personal Protective Equipment](#) (PPE).
- All chemicals used shall be
 - listed,
 - monitored and controlled (including where they are used.),



- kept in undamaged, marked, and suitable sealed containers, and
- stored, used and disposed of in accordance with applicable legislation and its Safety Data Sheet.

Records of chemicals shall be made available on request

4.2 Safety Data Sheets

“**Safety Data Sheet**” means manufacturer information for commercial users about the risks associated with a specific chemical and safety precautions that shall be taken for safe use. The exact format of a Safety Data Sheet may vary depending on local regulations.

Users of chemicals shall adhere to information and instructions contained in Safety Data Sheets.

SDS shall include, as a minimum, information about properties of each chemical; the physical, health, and environmental hazards; protective measures; and safety precautions for handling, storing, and transporting the chemical.

Safety Data Sheets shall be:

- in the local language,
- readily available where the chemicals are used and stored,
- readily available, as a 2nd set, in case of an emergency, and
- kept current.

4.3 Marking and labeling

Chemicals shall always be correctly marked and labeled with the chemical name and hazard symbols, including when transferred into smaller containers.

4.4 Flammable and/or explosive materials

Handling of hazardous, flammable and /or explosive materials shall only be done following a comprehensive local risk assessment and implementation of control measures in accordance with [Fire Prevention](#).

5 Medical fitness and response

An employee’s health condition shall where legally permitted be a part of the local risk assessment.

Employees shall inform their employer of known ailments, physical or otherwise that may have a negatively impact on themselves or a work colleague while at work. If an employee suffers from known medical conditions that could be exacerbated using certain chemicals, they shall inform their line manager.



6 Risk assessment and planning

A local risk assessment of the chemical usage shall be done before the first use. Such assessment shall include an evaluation of the need for training, the employee's health condition (where permitted), need of PPE, other control measures including those stated in the Safety Data Sheet and the possible use of less hazardous substitutes.

The local risk assessment shall be repeated if the conditions of the use change. This could be a change of personnel, new hazard information, increased exposure through increased use or other relevant changes in the working process or environment.

7 Monitoring and review

A yearly evaluation of chemical usage shall be done to evaluate the feasibility of substitution to less hazardous alternatives.

Adherence to this standard shall be monitored by reviewing and keeping records of:

- Incident Statistics;
- Quantity and type of chemicals used at any workplace; and
- Training per employee and per chemical.

8 References

[The Ericsson Lists of Banned and Restricted Substances](#)

9 Change information

Summary of changes since last revision:

- 1 Introduction updated
- 2 Added paragraphs Definitions and Responsibilities
- 3 Workplace Chemical Administrator and responsibilities added to Requirements
- 4 Clarification in Safety Data Sheet paragraph
- 5 Added Medical fitness and response