

# NSW FACT SHEET – HAZARDOUS CHEMICALS



## 1. WHAT IS A HAZARDOUS CHEMICAL?

Hazardous chemicals are substances, mixtures and articles that can pose a significant risk to health and safety if not managed correctly. They may have health hazards, physical hazards or both.

## 2. STORAGE REQUIREMENTS

Ensure all hazardous chemicals are:

- In labelled and closed containers (*Section 341 and 342, WHS Reg 2017*);
- Stored per the hazardous properties outlined in their Safety Data Sheet (SDS); and on surfaces resistant to chemical attack;
- Kept to the lowest practicable quantity for the workplace in the case of flammable and combustible liquids in containers and gas cylinders (*Section 53, WHS Reg*);
- Segregated from incompatible chemicals, e.g. corrosive and /or oxidising chemicals not stored with flammables (*Section 351, WHS Reg*);
- Separated from food, food packaging or personal use products (*Section 354, WHS Reg*); and
- Away from ignition sources and combustible packaging materials (*Section 355, WHS Reg*).

## 3. HAZARDOUS CHEMICALS REGISTER

A 'Hazardous Chemicals Register' is to be kept up to date and include; a list of all hazardous chemicals used, handled or stored onsite; and current (not more than 5 years old) SDS for each hazardous chemical listed (*Section 346, WHS Reg*).

A register and SDS are not required for consumer household products used in the same way and quantities that they would be used at home (*Section 344, WHS Reg 2017*). Safety precautions are still applicable to their use and storage.

## 4. INFORMATION SOURCES

- Chapter 7 of the *WHS Reg 2017*, visit [www.legislation.nsw.gov.au](http://www.legislation.nsw.gov.au)
- *Managing Risks of Hazardous Chemicals in the Workplace, Code of Practice*, August 2019, visit [www.safework.nsw.gov.au](http://www.safework.nsw.gov.au)
- Email us: [info@propertyrisk.com.au](mailto:info@propertyrisk.com.au)