Information on chemical risk - Writing-tool for workplace health and safety sheets

J.-F. CERTIN

CRAM des Pays de la Loire 2 place de Bretagne BP 93405 44034 Nantes Cedex 01 France

Every company must inform its workers on chemical risks and on preventive measures to be applied.

Information on hazards can be found on material safety data sheets and the labels of containers.

The Department of Occupational Risks at CRAM in Nantes (France) provides a writing-tool particularly adapted to SME's for workplace health and safety sheets.

An explicative sheet, together with two examples and a blank sheet, is available at CRAM Department and at <u>www.cram-pl.fr</u>. These sheets are also used during training courses on chemical risk.

Each company adapts these documents for its own use, giving priority to the most dangerous materials and risky workplaces or operations. The hazardous materials sheets have to be posted up at the workplace.

These workplace sheets have to be written in concert with operators, supervisory staff, the health and safety service and occupational medicine. They have to be updated regularly, at least at each modification of process or products.

A single sheet can be established for different products if the orders for use and safety are the same. For example: paints of similar type, acids.

These hazardous materials sheets are particularly useful to inform operators posted for the first time.