

A guide to the safe use of
SALON HAIR PRODUCTS

SAFETY DATA SHEETS

IMPORTANT

Keep this book in the Salon
for reference purposes

November 2016

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INTRODUCTION

Hair preparations should not present a risk to the health and safety of hairdressers or their clients if used sensibly and manufacturers' instructions are followed.

Manufacturers are required by law to supply health and safety information on any products used in hairdressing salons (a place of work) that contain potentially hazardous chemicals. Details must also be provided on the precautions that should be taken to reduce any risks. The information that manufacturers give their customers (including salons, wholesalers and distributors) is contained in this booklet.

The purpose of this booklet is to provide sufficient information on hair products used in salons, for you to make a workplace risk assessment as required by Australia's Hazardous Chemicals Framework. Please note that the exact legislative requirements vary slightly in each state and territory.

This book contains 19 Safety Data Sheets (SDS). They cover the categories of products commonly used in hairdressing salons.

The SDS tells you how to safely handle a product. It provides information for workers and professionals to help them make decisions and to prevent or deal with emergencies.

Use the product lists issued by manufacturers to determine which SDS applies to a particular hair care product.

All manufacturers must supply their customers (salons) with a list specifying which SDS in this booklet is relevant to each of their products. If you do not have such a list, contact your supplier.

If any of the products supplied by manufacturers do not comply with the information in this booklet then the correct information (i.e. product specific SDS) is required to be provided separately.

The information given in this booklet is ONLY PART of what is needed to meet the requirement for workplace risk assessment. Information will also be required on any other products used in the salon which may be hazardous to health, such as those used for cleaning, disinfecting and nail care products. Workplace health and safety (WHS) jurisdictions in the different states and territories support the preparation of this booklet.

2016 Revision – what's new?

In 2012 Australia began to transition to a new international system used to classify and communicate chemical hazards: the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS).

The GHS will update the way in which information about the hazards of chemicals and any precautions necessary to ensure safe storage, handling and disposal, is conveyed to users of chemicals. The GHS uses pictograms, signal words, and hazard and precautionary statements to communicate this information.

There are some differences between the GHS and the previous system, in particular the criteria for determining whether a product is classified as hazardous may be different. This means that some of

the products that you are familiar with may change classification, or become classified as hazardous for the first time.

If you find that the classification of the products you use has changed, you may need to review your risk assessments and safe working practices to make sure that you can continue to use these products safely.

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A GUIDE TO THE SAFE USE OF SALON HAIR PRODUCTS

The aim of this guide is to provide relevant information on hair products used in salons for you, the hairdresser to make an assessment of possible health and safety risks associated with storing and handling of these products in the environment in which you work.

The guide complies with the requirements of state and territory WHS legislation and related regulations.

The guide is not intended to be a complete encyclopaedia of safety information, rather, it is designed to highlight some of the most important points you should be aware of.

Your regular training, product label information, other safety information that is available to you and use of good judgement on the job will help you avoid injury to yourself, your clients and your fellow employees.

Within the workplace, the SDS is a recognised information source which underpins your overall risk management program to control exposure to hazardous and dangerous materials. The advice contained in the SDS includes information on health effects, exposure control, safe handling and storage, emergency procedures and disposal. For most workplace risk assessments required by WHS legislation, the SDS and the product label are the main information sources. SDSs may also be used as an integral part of your workplace training.

Are professional cosmetic products safe?

A great deal of effort and resources are directed towards product safety on the part of manufacturers and regulators.

However, poor practice resulting in extended skin contact or respiratory exposure to particular products may cause ill health to some hair and beauty practitioners.

Cosmetic products are safe when used according to manufacturers' instructions and recommendations.

Listing of ingredients

All cosmetic products manufactured or imported into Australia must be labelled with a list of ingredients. Listings are normally located on the back or side copy of packs offered for sale. In Australia all cosmetic products (including professional products) are required to list the product's ingredients in accordance with the Trade Practices (Consumer Products Information Standards) (Cosmetics) Regulations 1991. If you are unable to locate this information on the packs you currently use or offer for sale, contact your supplier or distributor and ask that the information be provided to you.

Ingredient lists inform about the substances present in the products. If you, or some of your clients are allergic to certain ingredients, a look at the list will tell you whether those ingredients are present in the product.

This information will help you and your clients avoid unwanted allergic reactions and/or to find products that do not present the potential for that problem. Ingredient names are listed according to a standardised international format and therefore should make no difference as to where the products are sourced from.

To help you avoid ingredients to which you or your clients may be allergic, make sure to find out from a doctor the chemical name or other commonly used names for that ingredient; then compare those names with those on the ingredients list. If you are unsure consult a doctor or the supplier to confirm one way or another.

Safety Data Sheets (SDS)

It is a requirement of state and territory WHS legislation that a safety data sheet be prepared by the manufacturer or the supplier if the product being supplied is assessed as being a hazardous chemical.

This guide has attempted to cover the majority of products supplied to hairdressers and in so doing 19 product groups have been created. Some of the groups list the products contained within them as hazardous, others list the products as non-hazardous. Manufacturers have assessed all product groups and have prepared a SDS for each one of them.

In each case the information provided in the SDS should be read and clearly understood by everyone.

Please keep this guide available in the workplace for employees to look at whenever they wish.

What you can learn from a Safety Data Sheet (SDS)

The SDS enables the user to answer some basic questions.

- a) What is the product I am about to use?
- b) What do I need to know before and while I use it?
- c) What do I do if a hazardous situation occurs?
- d) How can I prevent a hazardous situation from occurring?

The SDS will tell you how to safely handle the product so that you do not place yourself or others at risk. The SDS provides information to both workers and professionals to help them make decisions and to prevent or deal with emergencies. Such people may include managers, supervisors, transport drivers, the police, fire fighters, occupational hygienists, doctors, poisons information centres personnel, government authorities and so on.

These people will often need to know additional technical information associated with the product; information which is not often understood by personnel who have not had specialist training in that area.

For this reason some of the information in a SDS may appear too technical and unnecessary, but you are required by law to make sure all employees know what information is contained in the SDS and what it means for them.

THE SAFETY DATA SHEET – A PLAIN LANGUAGE EXPLANATION

Section 1 - Material and supply company identification

This section describes the product, trade and other associated names it may be known by and its proposed use.

Section 2 - Hazards Identification

This section describes briefly the potential adverse effects of the product if not used correctly such as breathing in too much, or having the product splashed on to areas such as the skin or eyes, or if the product is swallowed. It also discusses if the product has any cancer causing effects.

Precautionary statements describe recommended steps that should be taken to minimise or prevent adverse effects resulting from accidental exposure, or improper storage or handling of a hazardous chemical.

Section 3 - Composition Information This section advises the hazardous chemicals that make up the product and the amount that may be found in each finished product.

Section 4 - First Aid Measures

This section details who you should call and what you should do if the product is inhaled or comes into contact with the skin or eyes, or is swallowed.

Section 5 - Fire Fighting Measures

This section deals with the effects the product may have if it is in a fire, and the firefighting equipment that may be used to deal with it.

Section 6 - Accidental Release Measures

This section discusses how to deal with a substance when there is a spill or if a container breaks.

Section 7 - Handling and Storage

This section discusses how, where and under which conditions the product may need to be stored and if there are any special requirements for handling the product during its use.

Section 8 - Exposure Controls and Personal Protection

This section deals with what safety equipment may be needed when using this product such as gloves or eyewear and the requirements for the area in which the product is being used, such as ventilation and air flow.

Section 9 - Physical and Chemical Properties

This section deals with the chemical properties of the product including the colour and odour that the product may have, also if the product is water soluble.

Section 10 - Stability and Reactivity

This section discusses what may happen over the life of the product and the conditions that it needs to be kept under and/or avoided.

Section 11 - Toxicological Information

This section discusses the effects the product may have on the body both short term and over a long period of use and the classification of any hazardous ingredients.

Section 12 - Ecological Information

This section indicates the effect that possible release or disposal of the product may have on the environment.

Section 13 - Disposal Considerations

This states how to dispose of any residue or waste product.

Section 14 - Transport Information

This section provides basic classification information for the transport of the product by road, rail, sea or air as required by relevant transport legislation.

Section 15 - Regulatory Information

This section states that all the materials used in the manufacture of the product are compliant with Australian legislation. It also deals with special requirements which may apply to individual ingredients.

Section 16 - Other Information

This is used for miscellaneous information.