



National  
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# Module 7

## Education, Training and References

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**DND/CAF WHMIS 2015 ORIENTATION**

**VCDS/D Safe G**



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## WHMIS 2015 Training and Education Programs

### **Aim:**

Ensure that DND/CAF personnel understand the hazards present in their workplace and are able to apply knowledge in a manner that protects their own health and safety and that of their co-workers.

### **Education:**

Generally in the form of information available on WHMIS 2015 and the hazards of controlled products.

### **Training:**

It is more workplace specific such as use, handling, storage, disposal, emergency procedures and PPE.

## Local Information

### Information you MUST know:

- Location of your SDSs
- Hazardous Material Coordinator
- WHMIS 2015 Training Coordinator
- General Safety Officer

Additional information and advice about hazardous material is available from a number of sources like:

- Your supervisor and Work Place Health and Safety Committee/Representative



## SDS Information Specific Training Programs

Additional Workplace Specific Training is required every time there is a new or changed product allowed into the workplace or job process, or when there is an updated or amended SDS received by the workplace.

All DND/CAF personnel who use HAZMAT must be made aware of how to retrieve the information contained on an SDS. Also WHMIS awareness training (like this course) should be a part of all workplace specific WHMIS 2015 training.

If you are unsure of the requirement for additional training, contact your local Safety Officer.

## WHMIS 2015 Training for Visitors and Contractors

All persons who are granted access to the workplace must be made aware of all known and foreseeable hazards and have the necessary training if they are likely to come into contact with such hazards. Remember safety at the workplace is everyone's responsibility!

Please read below on legislated compliance requirements for dealing directly and indirectly with persons, other than workers, in the workplace.

The Federal Government are dealing with contractors more than ever before. The scope and span of the contractual relationship range from single services such as a simple grass cutting up to and including multiple services such as the complete administration and total operation of government facilities.

The CLC Part II places additional responsibilities on the Crown in relation to legislated compliance requirements for dealing directly and indirectly with persons, other than workers, in the workplace. For example, 125. (1)(w) of the CLC Part II requires the DND/CAF chain of command "to ensure that every person granted access to the work place by the employer is familiar with and uses in the prescribed circumstances and manner all prescribed safety materials, equipment, devices and clothing", and Section 125. (1)(y) requires the DND/CAF chain of command to, "ensure that the activities of every person granted access to the work place do not endanger the health and safety of workers". In addition, Section 125. (1)(z.14) requires the DND/CAF chain of command to, "take all reasonable care to ensure that all persons granted access to the workplace, other than the employer's



workers, are informed of every known or foreseeable health and safety hazard to which they are likely to be exposed in the work place".

With the changes to the CLC Part II in 2000, a more proactive system of monitoring must be employed to ensure that contractor activities are carried out in a safe manner. Moreover, local practice and procedure must be formalised and this includes ensuring workers are aware of activity and the hazardous products used in the workplace by contractors.

Processes should be in place to review the occupational health and safety policies and associated safety program, in this case WHMIS 2015, of potential contractors prior to start of work. The review should include making reasonable enquiries to confirm that appropriate instruction, training and orientation have been provided to the contractor's workers before they start work, and that there is provision for reminders of policies and rules through pre-job and ongoing site meetings. Whereas, it has traditionally been the policy of DND to adopt a "hands-off" approach to contractor compliance, except in those circumstances where the actions of a contractor might endanger Departmental workers or materiel, the CLC now dictates a more positive "hands-on" role. To ensure "due diligence", the DND/CAF chain of command must monitor the activities of contractors on a regular basis to ensure that they are in compliance with safety regulations and practices, including the CLC.

## WHMIS 2015 in HMS Ships and Auxiliary Vessels

A ship or vessel is considered a workplace, which means that any person who is new to the ship or vessel shall be instructed in WHMIS 2015 prior to being allowed onboard. However, WHMIS 2015 is a Canadian workplace safety system and therefore only applies to Canadian companies.

Outside Canada it is possible for HMC Ships to obtain hazardous material that is not labelled to WHMIS 2015 standards. For the identification of this material, the responsible person shall determine if the item being purchased is a hazardous material.

During procurement, as much relevant information as possible (e.g. the product name, an SDS, a hazard symbol, a risk phrase, precautionary measures, first aid measures, disposal instructions) shall be obtained from the supplier.

Workplace labels shall be displayed on the product while ship's personnel are using it. Additional information (e.g. in the USA it is possible to obtain an English SDS) on the product is to be retained with the SDS main file. It is prudent to limit the amount of hazardous materials/controlled products purchased outside Canada.



The exception to this is for a supply vessel, which is not only a workplace where WHMIS 2015 applies, but is also a floating "supply facility" and for the "supply warehousing" areas, the TDG rules for placarding shall apply.

The Captain of any vessel may opt to utilize additional TDG placarding on the vessel when such actions will assist in HAZMAT identification and safety, particularly while in foreign ports.

Some hazardous materials are held by ships in large containers (e.g. 205-litre drums) from which user requirements are drawn off for issue in portable containers. In this case, the bulk container shall have the appropriate supplier label affixed. A small supply of extra supplier labels for the product involved shall be kept with the bulk container. A supplier label shall be offered to the user to affix to the portable container at the time of issue.

## References

There are many references on WHMIS 2015, but some of the more frequently used ones are:

- A-GG-040-004/AG-001, Hazardous Materials Safety and Management Manual, Chapters 28, 29 and 30
- Controlled Products Regulations
- *Canada Labour Code, Part II*
- *Canada Occupational Health and Safety Regulations*
- DAOD 4003-1 - Hazardous Materials Management
- C-02-040-009/AG-001 - General Safety Program, Vol. 2 - General Safety Standards, Hazardous Substances Safety Standard, Chapter 13
- *Hazardous Materials Information Review Act*
- *Hazardous Products Act*
- *Transportation of Dangerous Goods Act and Regulations*



## Links of Interest

- Directorate of Materiel Management and Distribution: <http://dgmssc.ottawa-hull.mil.ca/dmmd/>
- Director General of Safety: <http://vcds.mil.ca/sites/page-eng.asp?page=4737>
- Risk Management, WHMIS, CFB Esquimalt Site: <http://esquimalt.mil.ca/fse/>