HEALTH HAZARDS CLASSIFICATIONS



Health Hazard Class	General Description
Acute toxicity	 These products are fatal, toxic or harmful if inhaled, if in contact with skin or if swallowed. Acute toxicity refers to effects occurring following: Skin contact or ingestion to: A single dose or multiple doses given within 24 hours An inhalation exposure of four hours Acute toxicity could result from exposure to the product itself. It could also result from a product that, upon contact with water, releases a gaseous substance that can cause acute toxicity.
Skin corrosion/irritation	This class covers products that cause severe skin burns (i.e. corrosion) and products that cause skin irritation.
Serious eye damage/eye irritation	This class covers products that cause serious eye damage (i.e. corrosion) and products that cause eye irritation.
Respiratory or skin sensitization	A respiratory sensitizer is a product that may cause allergy or asthma symptoms or breathing difficulties if inhaled. A skin sensitizer is a product that my cause an allergic skin reaction.
Germ cell mutagenicity	This hazard class includes products that may cause or are suspected of causing genetic defects. Genetic defects are permanent changes (mutations) to body cells that can be passed on to future generations.
Carcinogenicity	This hazard class includes products that cause or are suspected of causing cancer.
Reproductive toxicity	This hazard class includes products that may damage or are suspected of damaging fertility or the unborn child. NOTE: There is an additional category that includes products that may cause harm to breast-fed children.
Specific target organ toxicity – single exposure	This hazard class covers products that cause or may cause damage to organs (e.g. liver, kidneys or blood) following a single exposure. This class also includes a category for products that cause respiratory irritation, drowsiness or dizziness.
Specific target organ toxicity – repeated exposure	This hazard class covers products that cause or may cause damage to organs (e.g. liver, kidneys or blood) following prolonged or repeated exposure.
Aspiration hazard	This hazard class is for products that may be fatal if they are swallowed and enter the airways.
Biohazardous infectious materials	These materials are micro-organisms (e.g. viruses, bacteria or fungi), nucleic acids (e.g. DNA or RNA) or proteins that cause or are probable causes of infection, with or without toxicity, in humans or animals.
Health hazards not otherwise classified	This class covers products that are not included in any other health hazard class. These hazards occur following acute or repeated exposure and have adverse effects on the health of a person exposed to them – including injury or death. If a product is classified in this class, the hazard statement will describe the nature of the hazard.