

February 6, 1998

Jason Scriven, Government Relations  
3E Company  
4920 Carroll Canyon Rd.  
San Diego, CA 92121

Dear Mr. Scriven:

This letter is in response to your question regarding storing material safety data sheets (MSDSs) electronically.

In answer to your question, any business using an electronic means of MSDS retrieval would need to ensure that the MSDSs are available to employees within that employees' work shift, and employers would need to ensure that a backup system is available in the event that the main system is down for maintenance, repair, or power disruption.

With constant advances being made with respect to electronic access to information, OR-OSHA is continually reviewing its requirements. Said another way, our standards in the area may change at any time.

We hope this answers your question regarding MSDSs. If you have any questions or if we can be of further assistance, please contact David McLaughlin in our Technical Section at (503) 947-7457.

Sincerely,

Peter De Luca, Administrator  
Oregon Occupational Safety and Health Division  
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