

CHEMWATCH

ChemWatch is a database encompassing detailed information about a vast number of chemicals presented in an easy to read format, this makes the information very easy to retrieve and use. ChemWatch contains the handling procedures and storage details you need. Abiding by Worksafe Australia legislation, you can now easily access necessary precautions you are legally required to take, including obtaining Material Safety Data Sheets and labels for hazardous substances.

If you have the MSDS from the manufacturer then use that in preference to the ChemWatch MSDS (as it will contain specific information). ChemWatch does not contain the MSDS for all proprietary products so contact the manufacturer/supplier directly to obtain these. In addition, buffers are not normally listed, so must be looked up in their component parts.

Using ChemWatch-GOLD (the web version)

ChemWatch may be used from any internal networked computer (PC or Mac) running Explorer 4.5 or higher (Netscape 4.79 does open up the screen, but not all of the facilities function correctly, see Bob if you need to upgrade).

- Go to <http://bozo-server.anu.edu.au/chemgold/>

To Search Database for a Particular Chemical

1. Click **Database** button
2. Type in **Chemical Name** or UN No/ CAS No if known
3. Click **Go** or **hit enter**
4. **Choose** appropriate product from resulting list. NB ensure that you choose the correct form eg solution vs concentrated or liquid/molten vs solid etc.

Summary Information - The first window – Print this

This window gives you a quick insight into the hazards involved with this chemical. At the top of the page it tells you whether it is considered **Hazardous** by the NOHSC standard. **NB Many chemicals classified as Non-hazardous still may harm your health if not handled with appropriate precautions**, so you still need to read the information provided and the precaution required should be noted in your protocols.

The Bar Graph gives you a quick indication of what the hazards are (any bar going up to yellow or red signifies a significant safety hazard which needs to be controlled).

The numbers starting with R and S are international risk and safety phrases, which are expanded lower on the same page.

Mini MSDS – Print out this page for the MSDS folder and to attach to protocols

The Mini MSDS contains most (**but not all**) of the important safety information of a chemical. This is available in several languages, which may help some workers. The Mini MSDS is particularly useful for the printed record for your MSDS folder. Any pertinent information from the full MSDS that is not contained on the Mini should be noted on the print out.

MSDS Button

Clicking this button leads you to the full MSDS if you require it for printing. All of the information contained in the full MSDS is available in the MSDS Sections menu, where it is more easily read.

Sections Menu Button

This window is a menu of each of the sections contained in the Full MSDS (eg Physical Properties, Health Hazards, First Aid and Disposal) this makes looking at each of these sections very easy. This page is very useful when you are doing a Risk Assessment/finding out all of the information about a chemical. The mini-MSDS will have drawn your attention to areas to look at more closely. In particular check the **Personal Protection** recommended and the **Physical Properties** eg see if the chemical has a particularly low flash

point (very flammable). Each page may be printed out separately, or the full MSDS (all of this information) may be printed out at once by going to the MSDS window (see above).

CHINA-Emergency Response (Chemicals Incidence Advisory Report)

This section contains information on the appropriate response in case of emergency eg fire or chemical spill.

Stores/Manifest

Chemwatch has the facility to hold an inventory of all the chemicals held in each laboratory. This has several uses.

1. Easy maintenance of current Chemical/Hazardous Substances Inventory. These are automatically sorted into Dangerous Goods classes, and notice given if incompatible stocks are being stored together. The inventory is a Worksafe requirement and should be printed out and then stored in red MSDS folder in each lab
2. Enables emergency services to have all the information on relevant hazards in the case of an emergency
3. Easy print out of MSDS/Mini-MSDS for each of the inventoried chemicals (which should then be stored in red MSDS folder in each lab-a Worksafe requirement)
4. Facility to print out a list of all the Hazard symbols for the door of each Lab-a Worksafe requirement.
5. Enables rare chemicals to be located (prevents wastage)
6. Keeps track of the quantities of stored materials.

The Manifest has three levels of describing the location of the chemicals:

AREA: This is the building ie BOZO-Banks Wing or BOZO-Gould Wing

SECTION: This is the Room Number-and group descriptor if desired.

SPECIFIC LOCATION: This is the Academics initials followed by the exact location eg shelving or fridge or under fume hood.

The Manifest window has several buttons at the top, choose these first then the appropriate store/item to carry out the function.

View: This displays all stores in the manifest and can then be used to display an individual item.

New: Enables new stores to be added

Change: Enables store titles and item information to be changed (NB Jurisdiction should be Commonwealth),

Delete: Removes the contents and the store from the manifest

Search: Enables substances to be selected from the database and added to the manifest

Be very careful when in the Manifest window, ie it is easy to delete whole stores. Please see Ginny or Bob straight away if this has happened so that we can retrieve the information from the backup.

Adding to the Manifest

The initial addition of lab inventories will be in bulk via the use of excel spreadsheet which should be in the format illustrated below.

Material Name	Location	Section	Area	Enterprise	Place	Chemicals Owner	Un: Vol
Chloroform	Flammable s/Under Fumehood	A-39	BOZO-Banks Wing	Division of Botany and Zoology, ANU	Commonwealth	Scott Keogh	2.5
Ethanol	Flammable s/Under Fumehood	A-39	BOZO-Banks Wing	Division of Botany and Zoology, ANU	Commonwealth	Scott Keogh	2.5
Acetic Acid (glacial)	Acid/Corrosive Cupboard	A-39	BOZO-Banks Wing	Division of Botany and Zoology, ANU	Commonwealth	Scott Keogh	2.5
Hydrochloric Acid	Acid/Corrosive Cupboard	A-39	BOZO-Banks Wing	Division of Botany and Zoology, ANU	Commonwealth	Scott Keogh	2.5

To Add an Item

- Search for the item
- Choose Add
- Choose the store in which to add it to (the store may be added first if it does not already exist)

To Search the Manifest for an Item

- Search for the item
- Choose Stores
- The resulting window will show you which stores are listed as holding the chosen item.

To Print out the Inventory

- Choose the appropriate store/group of stores (ie whole lab, or whole building), this will then display a full list of all chemicals contained (in order of Dangerous Goods Class).
- Choose Print to print out this list (which includes the relevant dangerous goods placards and HAZCHEM codes)
- NB MSDS's may be printed out from here also

Security

As yet we have not put passwords on to the system as this complicates things no end. So please do not add passwords. If you feel it is necessary, then please discuss it with Ginny/Bob first.

Risk Assessment

Risk Assessments of the items listed in the manifest is a very straight forward procedure, and the results may be printed out.

LAN Version of CHEMWATCH-PC's ONLY

The LAN version of Chemwatch runs from the same software, but is not quite so easy to access. However, it does have a few functions that are not available on the WEB version.

I recommend addition of individual chemicals to manifest be done through the WEB version, as these are recorded directly whereas if you want to make changes on the LAN version you must first import the stores to your PC, then export them again when changes complete.

Printing batches of MSDS is easier using the LAN version.

Printing Labels

To print a label to go on an aliquot of a chemical:

- Search for that chemical
- Choose "Labels"
- Choose "Custom Labels"
- Choose "Load Custom Label"
- Choose "A39label"
- "Fill" will then show you what the label will look like (but will print out even if not shown on screen.
- "Print"
- Check Printer settings on **Smart Label printer**, with **Shipping Label** size and landscape
- Then "Print Custom Label"
- Choose quantity

Also see Ginny or Bob if you would like a copy of the Technical manual or workbooks.