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## Winter Alert

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Rockwood Casualty has seen 77 slips and falls on ice since the beginning of the year, some of them with serious injuries such as broken ribs, a collapsed lung, and fractured femurs and hips. This is the most we have seen in recent years. Please remember to take care of parking areas.

### Slip & fall injuries on ice accounted for 25% of claims since January

Keeping parking areas safe and well-maintained during icy conditions is crucial. Here are some simple tips:

1. **Pre-Treat Surfaces** – Apply salt, sand or ice melt before a storm to help prevent ice from bonding to the pavement.
2. **Plow and Shovel Regularly** – Remove snow as soon as possible to prevent it from compacting into ice.
3. **Use the Right Deicer** – Choose calcium chloride or magnesium chloride for extremely cold temperatures, as they work better than rock salt in frigid weather.
4. **Use Sand for Traction** – Spread sand or grit in high-traffic areas, especially slopes and walkways, to reduce slipping.
5. **Monitor Drainage** – Ensure proper drainage to prevent refreezing from melted snow pooling in low spots.
6. **Clear Snow Piles Away from Paths** – Piles near entrances or curbs can melt and refreeze, creating hazardous ice patches.
7. **Check for Black Ice** – Regularly inspect shaded areas and frequently traveled spots for invisible ice buildup.
8. **Mark Slippery Areas** – Use cones, signs or barriers to warn drivers and pedestrians of icy spots.

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**Now for our regular March topic:** In this month's safety newsletter, we will be discussing HazCom, or Hazard Communication. HazCom violations are one of the most frequent complaints OSHA brings up against businesses. Violations result in steep consequences, such as financial penalties, negative press for your company, loss of business reputation and more frequent OSHA inspections.

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Which of the following is not a component of a GHS chemical label?

- A. Product Identifier
- B. Signal Word

- C. Hazard Pictograms
- D. Hazard Statements
- E. Precautionary Statements
- F. Flammability
- G. Supplier Information

Answer at the end of the email.



(Missed a previous email? [Click here](#) to see an archive of previous months' safety emails on Rockwood's Loss Control website).



## What is HazCom?



OSHA's Hazard Communication Standard (HCS) is a set of laws designed to keep workers aware of any on-the-job chemical risks. Any workplace can have chemical hazards. Mishandling chemicals or disregarding safety warnings can result in serious harm and significant property damage. OSHA requires that companies train employees on how to safely handle hazardous chemicals. This is where HazCom comes in.



The purpose of HazCom is to ensure employees are aware of what hazardous chemicals and products are in the workplace. HazCom training teaches employees how to label, identify and manage hazardous materials, which are defined as any chemicals, waste or other materials that can cause harm with direct contact.



## Safety tips for good hazard communication

Follow these tips to help avoid incident or injury:

 <p>Training</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All employees should receive HazCom training specific to their workplace, including the safe use and handling of the specific chemicals used in their facility, how to utilize SDSs and labels, and safety plans in place.</li> </ul>
 <p>Warning Labels</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All chemicals are required to have labels, and employees should understand the information listed on each label.</li> <li>• When a chemical is moved from its primary container into a secondary container (water bottle, can, etc.), the</li> </ul>

	<p>secondary container is also required to be labeled.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">OSHA GHS QUICK CARD</a> Hazard Communication Standard Labels.</li> </ul>
 <p>Safety Data Sheets</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Must have 16 sections that provide information on the substance or mixture, its hazards, how to use it safely, and what to do if an employee is exposed to it.</li> <li>• Employees must have SDSs available to them and know where they can obtain them.</li> <li>• Recommendation – Keep a copy of specific SDSs near workstations where employees may have exposure potential.</li> </ul>
 <p>PPE</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Each chemical may be different and may require different PPE. Refer to the SDS for recommendations on PPE for each specific chemical. Some may require gloves, goggles, respirators, etc.</li> </ul>



### Rockwood resources:

- [Flammable & Combustible Materials](#) – Toolbox Talk
- [Chemical Handling Precautions](#) – Poster
- [Chemical Safety - Read SDS](#) – Poster
- [Chemical Safety - GHS Pictograms](#) – Poster
- You can find additional [Rockwood Toolbox Talks here](#)

### OSHA and MSHA resources:

- [OSHA Hazard Communication Standard FAQ](#) – Top Questions and Answers about the OSHA Haz Com Standard
- [OSHA Hazard Communication Standard: Safety Data Sheets](#) – OSHA SDS Requirements
- [OSHA Hazard Communication Overview](#) – OSHA HazCom overview
- [OSHA Hazard Communication Standard: Labels and Pictograms](#)
- [MSHA – HazCom 30 CFR Part 47 – Telling Miners About Chemical Hazards](#)



## Learn more about hazard communication on Streamery

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Every Rockwood policy includes access to Streamery, a vast safety library with videos, quizzes and more resources to help you promote safety in your workplace. If you don't have access, contact us to get a username. Enter the SKU number below to find the recommended video.

### Watch [Streamery](#) videos on HazCom:

- **Hazard Communication and GHS:** 21 min / SKU: 3385 / English
- **Hazard Communication – Solid Waste:** 10 min / SKU: 2495 + 2495-S / English & Spanish
- **Hazard Communication:** 21 min / SKU: 5061 + 5061-S / English & Spanish
- **GHS Container Labeling:** 12 min / SKU: 2917 + 2917-S / English & Spanish
- **Many more on Streamery**



## Bonus materials:

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### 1: OSHA recordkeeping

Each **February through April**, employers with more than 10 employees must post a summary of the injuries and illnesses recorded the previous year. Records must be maintained at the worksite for at least five years. If you need more information to know if you fall under this requirement or what kind of information is required of you, please visit this link: [Recordkeeping - Overview | Occupational Safety and Health Administration](#) or reach out to the Rockwood Loss Control team at the email listed below.

### 2: Injury Tracking Application (ITA)

This is your reminder to submit your OSHA injury and illness records (OSHA Forms 300, 300A and 301) by **March 2!** Use this link for more information: [Injury Tracking Application \(ITA\) | Occupational Safety and Health Administration](#).

### 3: COVID-19 reporting update – OSHA

OSHA is no longer enforcing COVID-19 recordkeeping and reporting requirements. For more information please see OSHA's memorandum here: [Enforcement Stay of the COVID-19 Recordkeeping and Reporting Requirements](#).

### 4: Seatbelt covers

Don't forget that Rockwood Casualty is providing FREE high visibility seatbelt covers to our insureds to assist in enforcement of seatbelt use by employees. Please contact [safetysolutions@rockwoodcasualty.com](mailto:safetysolutions@rockwoodcasualty.com) to make a request for your company and specify orange or yellow.



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## Questions? Feel free to reach out

As always, your Rockwood partners are available to answer your questions and help you promote safety in the workplace. [Contact Rockwood Loss Control](#) for any support you need.

Thank you for your continued partnership,

**Rockwood Loss Control Team**  
[Safetysolutions@rockwoodcasualty.com](mailto:Safetysolutions@rockwoodcasualty.com)

 [#RockwoodSafetySolutions](#) [#LossControl](#) [#SafetyTips](#)



**ANSWER:** Which of the following is not a component of a GHS chemical label?

- A. Product Identifier
- B. Signal Word
- C. Hazard Pictograms
- D. Hazard Statements
- E. Precautionary Statements
- F. **Flammability**
- G. Supplier Information

\*While flammability is something that is important to note, that would be included in the hazard statement if necessary.

