REFERENCE GUIDE FOR
WHMIS

The 3-step snapshot to understanding
WHMIS

➤ Understand the symbols

- The symbol is a visual reminder of what type of substance you will be handling
- Symbols are found on Labels and MSDS.
- Some examples of the classes you might encounter in the forest industry are:
  - Oxygen and Acetylene (Compressed Gas)
  - Gasoline and Diesel (Flammable/Combustible)
  - H2S gas from Sour Gas wells (Poisonous material)
  - Battery Acid (corrosive materials)

➤ Recognizing Labels

- Labeling (by Suppliers or Employers) is required on hazardous substances
- Labels are the first indicator to the worker that they are dealing with a hazardous substance
- Labels must contain the following information:
  - Identification of the substance (eg. Diesel Fuel)
  - Hazard symbol of the substance
  - Precautionary and First Aid measures
  - Reference to Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS)
- Types of Labels
  - Supplier – generally an adhesive label attached before shipment
  - Workplace – often a plastic tag attached by a wire or plastic tie to the container by the employer
  - Hand written – writing of the product name by the worker when the substance is dispensed for their individual use.

➤ Knowing how to use Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS)

- An MSDS is a written bulletin issued by the supplier providing specific information about the hazardous substance
- MSDS will contain the following information
  - Product Name
  - Hazardous ingredients
  - Physical data
  - Fire and Explosion hazard
  - Reactivity data
  - Toxicological properties
  - Preventative measures
  - First Aid measures
  - Preparation information
- An employer must make the Material Safety Data sheets available to the workers, and provide time for them to read the information before commencing work
REFERENCE GUIDE FOR
TDG (Transportation of Dangerous Goods)

The 4-step snapshot to understanding TDG

Symbols
- The symbol is a visual reminder of what type of substance is being transported
- Symbols are found on Labels & Placards
- Some examples of the classes you might encounter in the forest industry are:
  - Class 1 – Blasting materials (Explosives)
  - Class 2 – Oxygen, Acetylene, Propane (Gases)
  - Class 3 – Diesel, Gasoline, Solvents (Flammable & Combustible liquids)
  - Class 6 – Solvent compounds, paint removers (Poisonous substances)
  - Class 8 – Battery acids (Corrosive substances)

Safety Marks
- Safety Marks are the first indicator to the worker that they are dealing with a dangerous good when approaching a container or vehicle load
- Types of Safety Marks
  - Labels – small diamond shaped marks generally found on smaller containers (i.e. oxygen bottles)
  - Placards – large diamond shaped marks generally found on larger containers or on loaded vehicles transporting dangerous goods
- Safety Marks will contain the following information:
  - Symbol of the dangerous good (i.e. a flame)
  - Class of the substance (i.e. Class 3)
  - Shipping Name (i.e. Gasoline)
  - PIN (product identification) number (i.e. UN 1203)
- Use of Safety Marks
  - Whenever a dangerous good is transported
  - When used on larger loads, placards are generally attached at 4 corners of the load vehicle
  - Placards are even required when containers or tanks are empty

Documentation
- Class 3 substances (Diesel, Gasoline) generally do not require a shipping document unless the container size is 2000 liters or larger
- Used oils (generated by the contractor) are not classified under TDG regulation
- If a shipping document is used, it must contain the following information:
  - Document number
  - Date of shipment
  - Signature of the shipper
  - Shippers name and address and 24 hour contact number
  - Receivers name and address
  - Carriers name
  - Name, Class, PIN, Packing group, and volume of product being shipped
  - Type and number of placards used

Emergency Response
- When spills or leaks exceed the quantities listed, it must be reported to:
  - The Police
  - The Employer
  - The Vehicle owner
- The owner of the goods

Rules to remember for TDG
1. Use the right container
2. Keep the container capped
3. Label the container
4. Secure the container in an upright position when in transport
5. When unloaded, protect from collision