

SCSU MAKES A COMMITMENT TO FIRST RESPONDER SAFETY

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Director of Facilities Operations Services
Southern Connecticut State University

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- Serving over 9,000 students
- An 168 acre urban campus
- A library of over 2,800 chemicals



Located in New Haven, Connecticut, Southern Connecticut State University (SCSU) serves a community of over 9,000 students on a 168 acre campus in an urban setting. Since its founding in 1893, SCSU has been a leading center for teacher and nursing education. It also offers a full slate of arts, science, and business curricula. In 1983, it became part of the Connecticut State University System.

SCSU's large, urban setting means it faces a wide variety of EHS and compliance challenges. Thomas Struble is SCSU's Director of Facilities Operations Services. According to Mr. Struble, the university's partnership with *VelocityEHS* has allowed SCSU not only to better protect its students and staff, but also its team of first responders.

“When I took my new position in Facilities Operations, SCSU was using the paper binder system for safety data sheets,”

explains Mr. Struble. “We have over 2,800 chemicals on campus. Managing safety data sheets for all of them was very frustrating; it became an office clerk's full time job.”

Mr. Struble also found the paper binder system problematic when it came to the safety of his campus emergency services team.

“[Before partnering with *VelocityEHS*] if there was an incident — like a spill in a chemical lab — our first responders would come and need to see the safety data sheets,” says Mr. Struble. “They would show up and want to know what chemicals were involved, where, and in what quantities. We knew there had to be a way to make this process easier.”

With this in mind, SCSU set out to find an electronic cloud-based solution.

“We were impressed with what we'd heard about the MSDSonline HQ Account,”

explains Mr. Struble. “When we saw that we would be able to pull everything up on our handheld devices, and access our chemical inventories by building and by department, it made it an easy choice.”

Mr. Struble was also excited by the potential of the MSDSonline HQ Account to improve conditions for his first responders. Since adoption, he has been pleased with the results.

“Now if a call comes into our campus police, they can go directly in and find the chemical details of the situation,” says Mr. Struble. “Before they arrive, they know what's been spilled. They know whether to ventilate or to contain. It's great.”

Soon after adoption, SCSU learned of the launch of the MSDSonline Plan1 First Responder Share Service. Plan1 gives businesses an easy way to provide emergency response teams with their hazardous chemical inventories in advance of an accident. Through this cloud-based



information sharing service, the first responders can better plan, prepare, and assess the risks associated with emergencies involving chemicals.

Having been using the HQ Account for this purpose, but without the additional benefits of a first-responder-specific interface, SCSU was excited about the launch of Plan1.

“I think Plan1 is an excellent idea,” says Mr. Struble. “I don’t know why everyone wouldn’t do it. Otherwise, first responders are walking blind into something potentially dangerous. You want them to have access to a database every time there’s a chemical spill.”

In addition to the functionality for first responders, adopting the MSDSonline HQ Account has brought several other benefits for SCSU.

“MSDSonline also saves us so much time!” concludes Mr. Struble. “We no longer have to dedicate a person entirely to safety data sheets. I get new updates on the chemicals regularly, and adding them to our eBinder is very simple. It’s beautiful. Seamless. We feel very good.”

VelocityEHS understands the importance of making chemical inventory information easily and quickly accessible — not only for our immediate customers, but for their communities and the first responders who serve them. To learn more about the Plan1 First Responder Share Service, available at no cost to all HQ and HQ RegXR Account customers and the first responders with which they’re sharing, visit the Plan1 page on the MSDSonline website at: www.msdsonline.com/plan1.aspx.



A COMMITMENT TO THE FIRST RESPONDER COMMUNITY

As leaders in safety and compliance, *VelocityEHS* understands the challenges and risk our nation’s fire, police, and emergency services personnel face when they arrive on the scene of an accident. When first responders are forced to assess risks and respond to emergencies with inadequate or outdated information, the results can be devastating, especially when hazardous chemicals are involved. Our Plan1 First Responder Share Service gives companies an efficient way to provide emergency response teams with quick and easy access to facility map and hazardous chemical inventory information through our cloud-based information sharing service. Developed in collaboration with our customers and with the first responder community, Plan1 creates an opportunity to close the loop on emergency response planning and preparedness through improved communication and access to critical chemical safety information.

Benefits of the HQ Account

Millions of MSDSs at Your Fingertips

24/7 access to the industry’s leading database of safety data sheets ensures your company’s library is up-to-date and in compliance.

Simplify Compliance

Easy-to-use tools help you meet hazard communication requirements (OSHA / WHMIS / GHS), including hazard determination, right-to-know access, labeling, safe chemical handling, PPE, and more.

Improve Chemical Management

Robust chemical management tools provide greater container-level control over the location, status and risk associated with the chemicals you use. Our free mobile Chemical Inventory Scanner app lets you scan barcode/QR code labels for in-the-field container management.

Mobile Access

Our online accounts are mobile optimized, and our free eBinder mobile app makes it possible to access SDSs and chemical inventory information offline, when internet connectivity is limited. With these mobile capabilities, critical chemical safety information is always at your fingertips.

Regulatory Compliant

Multiple back-up options mean your system meets OSHA, WHMIS and other regulatory requirements for electronic safety data sheet /chemical management.

Quick ROI & Low Cost of Ownership

The HQ Account pays for itself by eliminating time-consuming, manual administrative tasks. Plus, there’s no software to install or maintain, and you get immediate access to new features.

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