MEDICAL DEVICE MANUFACTURER COMMITS TO CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT WITH MSDSONLINE

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Bill Christman
Plant Manager
Compass Health

Compass Health

- Leading manufacturer of medical devices
- Over 100 employees at its Sioux Falls facility
- A library of over 400 chemicals

Based in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, Compass Health is a leading manufacturer of home healthcare medical products. Making everything from homecare beds to CPAP machines to canes and crutches, Compass Health's products directly impact quality of life for millions of Americans.

Until earlier this year, Compass Health relied on physical paper binders to manage the safety data sheets at their manufacturing facility. However, after determining that it could better meet right-to-know requirements, Compass Health decided to make the move to MSDSonline, a *VelocityEHS* solution. Bill Christman, Plant Manager for Compass Health, was instrumental in this transition.

"When I came aboard, we were coming off a third-party audit to measure and potentially improve our general manufacturing practices," explains Mr. Christman. "We do this periodically to keep employees safe, and to make sure we'd be compliant if OSHA ever came to do an inspection. The audit suggested we could improve our access to safety data sheets for employees. I had used MSDSonline at the plant I was running in my previous position, and I had the idea that we could use it here — especially the auto-updates function. It turned out I was right!"

On Mr. Christman's recommendation, Compass Health adopted the MSDSonline solution for their Sioux Falls facility. Mr. Christman reports that it easily accommodated Compass Health's unique suite of chemicals.

"The HQ Account from MSDSonline has been a really good fit for us," says Mr. Christman. "We have about 100 employees here in Sioux Falls, and about 30 of them are working directly with the chemicals in production. We use a lot of inks that require safety data sheets. We use them for printing on the sides of medical products. You'd be surprised how many devices have calibrations printed on the side for med delivery. We also use large amounts of acetone. All in all, we need SDSs for about 400 chemicals. The new [MSDSonline] system has everything we need for the chemicals we use. It's all right there."

Mr. Christman adds that adopting MSDSonline's HQ Account has also resulted in a significant savings of time for the safety staff.
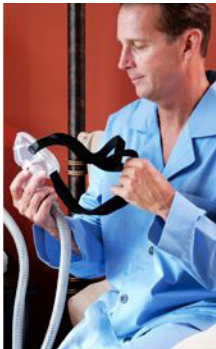
"I can't stress enough how much time the auto-updates saves," says Mr. Christman. "It used to be that our Quality Tech had to look up SDSs and manually update each binder. Now he just goes into the queue in our eBinder, checks for updated documents and uploads them, and it's done. That's so much faster."

Mr. Christman adds that Compass Health feels a new sense of security thanks to the HQ Account, "The peace of mind the auto-updates provides is really valuable," says Mr. Christman. "The system helps keep you compliant. Now we're actually looking forward to our next review.

And looking to the future, Mr. Christman says Compass Health is looking to take advantage of more of MSDSonline's capabilities [included with their HQ Account] such as container tracking and chemical inventory management

"There's an option where you can track chemicals coming in and out – that's really exciting for us," concludes Mr. Christman. "We're going to start using that next. We bring barrels of acetone in and out so regularly, this will make it much easier to track them. It all works together as part of the MSDSonline system. What more could you want?"

THIRD PARTY AUDITS: A GREAT WAY TO TEST OSHA READINESS!

Third party audits are a smart way to test for compliance *before* a visit from OSHA. These tests are great for determining how you're meeting HazCom requirements and satisfying government mandated right-to-know rules. How quickly can employees look up relevant chemical information? Can employees print out a safety data sheet? Do they have unrestricted access to required safety information? Even self-directed audits can give companies a "heads up" on their compliance strengths and weaknesses, and allow them to address any issues before a citation is on the line.

VelocityEHS knows the compliance challenges businesses face. We can be a powerful ally, bringing real-world solutions that help companies be more confident during inspections. Our industry-leading suite of cloud-based chemical safety software gives companies of all sizes, in all industries, the ability to seamlessly access hazardous chemical information and up-to-date safety data sheets. Now that GHS alignment is here, this is more important than ever! Find out why thousands of safety professionals across the U.S. and Canada now trust us to help them stay on-track and compliant during inspections amid unprecedented regulatory change!

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.

"I can't stress enough how much time the auto-updates saves."