



February 10, 2020

Explaining the “Store locked up” Warning on Oatey Cement SDS and Product Labels

Some customers may notice that Oatey utilizes the statement “Store Locked up” in section 2 and section 7 of our GHS Safety Data Sheets (“SDS”), and on our solvent cement labels. We encourage customers to read and understand our SDS and product instructions; and thank you for your interest in this topic.

We use this statement because in extreme situations, solvent cements can pose an aspiration hazard. Per GHS rules, if a cement is considered an aspiration hazard, then one of the required precautionary statements on the SDS and label is “store locked up”.

In authoring our SDS, Oatey utilized a reasonable but conservative approach to ensure that we gave the end user of our products the most safety information and instructions possible.

Users should utilize this information and follow all instructions. However, some context around this particular statement is important. OSHA recognizes that if the underlying hazard associated with a product—in this case, aspiration—will not occur during storage, then the instruction can be omitted. (See OSHA Direction CPL_02-02-079, p.39.) Because Oatey could not rule out aspiration hazards in all storage-related scenarios, we kept this instruction on our product. In common usage though (i.e., unopened, or opened, but with a cap on), we do not believe that this product poses an aspiration hazard during storage. Accordingly, in those scenarios, we do not believe that this product needs to be stored locked up.

Additionally, based on Oatey’s analysis of competitors’ solvent cements, we believe that they pose materially the same level of aspiration hazard as Oatey’s. In other words, the same storage practices should be followed for Oatey’s solvent cements as for competitors’.

If you have further questions, please contact Oatey Technical Service at Technical@oatey.com.