



TOP COMPLIANCE (Pty) Ltd

Your Business' Safety Is Our Concern

QSE B-BBEE - Level Four

www.topcompliance.co.za

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Hand sanitisers and the legal requirements.

We have all gone to the shops, workplaces, our children's school in the past few months. We have all had to sanitise our hands before entering these premises. How often have you had your hands sprayed with a hand sanitiser that was in an unmarked spray bottle? Almost always I am sure. This is however a *Criminal Offence* in terms of the Occupational Health and Safety Act No. 85 of 1993 - Hazardous Chemical Substances Regulations, 1995, Clause 16.

As stated in the Occupational Health and Safety Act No. 85 of 1993:

8. **General duties of employers to their employees**

- (1) *Every employer shall provide and maintain, as far as is reasonably practicable, a working environment that is safe and without risk to the health of his employees.*
- (2) *Without derogating from the generality of an employer's duties under subsection (1), the matters to which those duties refer include in particular-*
 - (a) *the provision and maintenance of systems of work, plant and machinery that, as far as is reasonably practicable, are safe and without risks to health;*
 - (b) *taking such steps as may be reasonably practicable to eliminate or mitigate any hazard or potential hazard to the safety or health of employees, before resorting to personal protective equipment;*

What are the possible risks to using hand sanitisers?

1. **It may increase your risk of dermatitis** (*a medical condition in which the skin becomes red, swollen, and sore, sometimes with small blisters, resulting from direct irritation of the skin by an external agent or an allergic reaction to it.*)

To prevent the spread of the coronavirus, the CDC recommends washing hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds or, if they are not available, using a hand sanitiser that contains at least 60% alcohol. Following that advice is essential, but "increased contact with chemical irritants and allergens may increase the risk of hand dermatitis or a type of eczema.

Solution: Using a moisturiser, ideally containing mineral oil or petrolatum, may help prevent hand dermatitis. While moisturiser should be applied immediately after hand washing, this is not the case when

using a hand sanitiser. Individuals should rub their hands together for about 15-30 seconds covering all surfaces with hand sanitiser until the hands are dry, and then apply a moisturiser.

2. May lead to skin irritation:

Hand sanitisers are antiseptic products and formulated to disinfect the skin. The primary disinfecting ingredient in hand sanitiser formulas is ethyl or isopropyl alcohol, and they are formulated along with thickeners, softeners and sometimes fragrances to curtail the strong smell of alcohol. Frequent use of it can cause skin irritation or dry out the skin. If you have sensitive skin, the effects can be worse. The drying out is caused by alcohol. If you cannot minimise your hand sanitiser use, a good idea is to follow up with a moisturising regimen.

3. Some formulations may adversely affect health

Some non-alcohol-based hand sanitisers that consist of an antibiotic compound called triclosan or triclocarban has shown in studies to be a health hazard as its overuse has negative effects on the body's immune system.

4. You may be prone to getting a skin disorder

The overuse of alcohol-based hand sanitisers to safeguard against the germs and infection causing pathogens could inversely increase the risk of infection via skin disorders. Overdoing it may remove non-threatening normal skin bacteria which may result in secondary infections.

5. May lead to alcohol poisoning if ingested.

Many hand sanitisers contain very high levels of alcohol and there have been various reports of people ingesting hand sanitisers and requiring medical intervention.

- Do not drink it!
- Keep it away from children.
- Educate children of the possible dangers.
- Call 084-124, 082 911 or 112 immediately if you or someone else has swallowed hand sanitiser.

We need to however ensure the safety of our staff, clients, and others. With the understanding of the below legislation we can easily comply and ensure the people on our property are safety.

Occupational Health and Safety Act No. 85 of 1993 - Hazardous Chemical Substances Regulations, 1995 defines a "hazardous chemical substance" as follows: *means any toxic, harmful, corrosive, irritant or asphyxiant substance, or a mixture of such substances for which—*

(a) an occupational exposure limit is prescribed; or

(b) an occupational exposure limit is not prescribed, but which creates a hazard to health;

Extreme cautions are to be taken when handling, storing, transporting, and using hazardous chemicals. The user needs to wear protective clothing and personal protective equipment to protect themselves from hazardous chemicals. Depending on the chemicals, this might involve rubber gloves, safety goggles, chemical-resistant coveralls, or respirators.

Hazardous chemicals are accompanied by Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) that outlines the severity of the potential risks as well as the safety measures that must be in place when handling these substances.

Handling of hazardous chemical substances

9A (1) Subject to section 10(3) of the Act, every person who manufactures, imports, sells or supplies any hazardous chemical substance for use at work, shall, as far as is reasonably practicable, provide the person receiving such substance, free of charge, with a material safety data sheet in the form of Annexure 1, containing all the information as contemplated in either ISO 1 1014 or ANSIZ400.1.1993 with regard to-

(a) product and company identification;

(b) composition/information on ingredients;

- (c) hazards identification;
- (d) first-aid measures;
- (e) fire-fighting measures;
- (f) accidental release measures;
- (g) handling and storage;
- (h) exposure control/personal protection;
- (i) physical and chemical properties;
- (j) stability and reactivity;
- (k) toxicological information;
- (l) ecological information;
- (m) disposal considerations;
- (n) transport information;
- (o) regulatory information; and
- (p) other information:

Provided that, where it is not reasonably practicable to provide a material safety data sheet, the manufacturer, importer, seller or supplier shall supply the receiver of any hazardous chemical substance with sufficient information to enable the user to take the necessary measures as regards the protection of health and safety.

(2) Every employer who uses any hazardous chemical substance at work, shall be in possession of a copy of Annexure 8 or a copy of sufficient information, as contemplated in subregulation (1).

Check your company's hand sanitisers MSDS and carefully read the fire safety and first aid precautions.

Many hand sanitisers have a very low fire flash point, some as low as 22 degree Celsius. (*Flash point is the lowest temperature at which a liquid can give off vapour to form an ignitable mixture in air near the surface of the liquid. The lower the flash point, the easier it is to ignite the material.*)

Thus, it should not be kept in the direct sun or in a car where vapour may come close to a heat source.

[General first aid for accidental poisoning or ingestion of hand sanitiser](#)

Labelling, packaging, transportation, and storage

14. An employer shall, in order to avoid the spread of contamination of an HCS, take steps, as far as is reasonably practicable, to ensure:

- (a) that the HCS in storage or distributed are properly identified, classified and handled in accordance with SABS 072 and SABS 0228;
- (b) that a container or a vehicle in which an HCS is transported is clearly identified, classified, and packed in accordance with SABS 0228 and SABS 0229; and
- (c) that any container into which an HCS is decanted, is clearly labelled with regard to the contents thereof.

[For the complete Hazardous Chemical Substances Regulations, 1995](#)

Hand sanitisers are a good alternative to reduce potentially infectious microbial loads such as viruses, bacteria, fungus on your hands or skin, if soap and water are not immediately available. Hand sanitisers do not remove physical dirt, grime, mucus etc. A hand sanitiser is therefore not as good as soap and water.

Our Services:

Online virtual classroom training: <https://www.topcompliance.co.za/index.php/skills-development-head/virtual-online-classroom-courses>

- Safety Representatives role in the workplace and the understanding of Regulations for Hazardous Biological Agents in the time of COVID-19
- Safety representative training (OHS Act and SHERQ rep) Including COVID-19
- The Occupational Health and Safety Act & responsibilities of management
- Updated FIRST AID protocols for COVID-19 - **NEW**
- Food facility health & safety course
- Basic firefighting
- Basic firefighting with emergency action planning

COVID-19 specific

- COVID-19 Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment – Site specific
- COVID-19 Safe working procedures – Site specific
- COVID-19 Site specific screening registers
- COVID-19 PPE policies and procedures – Site specific
- COVID-19 Policies and procedures for contractors and clients
- COVID-19 Policies and procedures for management of ill staff of client
- COVID-19 Policies and procedures for submitting COVID-19 illness to Workman’s Compensation.
- COVID-19 Induction training
- COVID-19 Awareness training

Personal Protective Equipment: <https://www.topcompliance.co.za/index.php/safety-shop>

- Gloves
- Hand Sanitisers
- Masks
- Face shields
- All first aid equipment

Some of our training courses can be done through our virtual classroom.

Certain types of Risk Assessments and audits will be done by means of virtual site visits using various means of technology to virtually visit the site.

For more information please contact – info@topcompliance.co.za

<https://www.topcompliance.co.za/index.php/products>



			
Medical equipment	SANS Signage	Legal posters	Personal Protective Equipment

Courses offered by Top Compliance (Pty) Ltd

<https://www.topcompliance.co.za/index.php/skills-development-head/training-calendar>

VIRTUAL CLASSROOM	
Occupational Health and Safety Courses	
FREE overview of COVID-19	07h45 – 09h00
Safety representative course specific for COVID-19 in terms of the OHS Act and Regulation for Hazardous Biological Agents	07h45 – 11h00
Safety Representatives role in the workplace and the understanding of Regulations for Hazardous Biological Agents in the time of COVID-19	07h45 – 16h00
OHS Act & SHERQ representative	07h45 – 16h00
The Occupational Health and Safety Act & responsibilities of management	07h45 – 16h00
Food facility health & safety course	07h45 – 14h00
Fire Fighting and Prevention Courses	
Basic firefighting	07h45 – 13h00
Basic firefighting with emergency action planning	07h45 – 15h00
First aid	
First aiders updated protocols for COVID-19 in terms of the OHS Act and Regulation for Hazardous Biological Agents	07h45 – 10h00

First Aid Courses:		SACE CPTD points
First aid: Level 1	2 days	15
First aid: Level 2	3 days	15
First aid: Level 3	3 days	15
First aid: Level 1 & 2	3 days	30
First aid: Level 2 & 3	3 days	30
First aid: Level 1, 2 & 3	5 days	45
Child and infant CPR & choking	6 hours	0
Adult CPR & choking	6 hours	0
Adult CPR & choking and AED	1 day	0
Basic first aid equestrian grooms	1 day	0
Basic first aid domestic workers	1 day	0
Perform basic life support and first aid procedures	2 days	15
Provide risk-based primary emergency care/first aid in the workplace	2 days	15
Occupational Health and Safety Courses		
OHS Act & SHERQ representative	1 day	10

The Occupational Health and Safety Act & responsibilities of management	1 day	10
Apply health and safety at work area	1 days	10
Conduct workplace Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) inspections	1 day	10
Explain basic health and safety principles in and around the workplace	1 day	10
Food facility health & safety course	6 hours	0
Basic ladder safety	6 hours	0
Fire Fighting and Prevention Courses		
Basic firefighting	6 hours	10
Basic firefighting with emergency action planning	1 day	10
Basic firefighting with fire extinguisher practical	1 day	10
Basic firefighting and prevention in the equine industry	1 day	0
Demonstrate knowledge and use of hand operated firefighting equipment	1 day	10
Apply firefighting techniques	1 day	10

SKILLS PROGRAMS		SACE CPTD	Class days
First Aid Level 1,2 & 3 - HW/SP/1601190			
US 119567	Perform basic life support and first aid procedures	15	5 days
US 120496	Provide risk-based primary emergency care/first aid in the workplace		
US 376480	Provide first aid as an advanced first responder		
First Aider - HW/SP/1202005			
US 119567	Perform basic life support and first aid procedures	15	5 days
US 120496	Provide risk-based primary emergency care/first aid in the workplace		
US 13915	Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of HIV/AIDS in a workplace, and its effects on a business sub-sector, own organisation and a specific workplace.		
First Aid (Basic) - HW/SP/150795			
US 119567	Perform basic life support and first aid procedures	15	4 days
US 9964	Apply health and safety to a work area		
Health, Safety and Fire Combination - HW/SP/1510179			
US 9964	Apply health and safety to a work area	10	5 days
US 119567	Perform basic life support and first aid procedures	15	
US 120331	Demonstrate knowledge pertaining to fires in working places	-	
Workplace SHE Rep - HW/SP/1510182			
US 9964	Apply health and safety to a work area	15	3 days
US 259639	Explain basic health and safety principles in and around the workplace		
First Aid and Safety Representative - HW/SP/1510183			
US 9964	Apply health and safety to a work area	15	4 days
US 119567	Perform basic life support and first aid procedures		
Safety Incident Investigation and inspections - HW/SP/1511233			
US 259617	Conduct an investigation into workplace safety, health and environmental incidents	10	2 days
US 259619	Conduct workplace Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) inspections		
First Aid and Firefighting - HW/SP/1511239			
US 120496	Provide risk-based primary emergency care/first aid in the workplace	15	4 days
US 13961	Demonstrate knowledge and use of hand operated firefighting equipment		
Fire and Rescue Skills Programme - HW/SP/1604338			
US 252250	Apply firefighting techniques	15	4 days
US 119567	Perform basic life support and first aid procedures	15	
Emergency First Aider - HW/SP/1605377			
US 119567	Perform basic life support and first aid procedures	15	5 days
US 120496	Provide risk-based primary emergency care/first aid in the workplace		
Safety Management - HW/SP/1601159			
US 9964	Apply health and safety to a work area	15	3 days
US 259639	Explain basic health and safety principles in and around the workplace		

