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PART I

MANUAL L-1—A GUIDE FOR THE PREPARATION OF WARNING LABELS FOR HAZARDOUS CHEMICALS

Adopted 1945

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The development of new chemical products and the introduction of chemical processes into ever-widening fields has accentuated the need for furnishing appropriate information in those cases where special precautions are necessary. Many chemicals present no hazards in normal handling and storage and for these products no precautionary labels are necessary.

The education of employees regarding chemical hazards is, and must remain, the direct responsibility of their employers. However, such hazards are not confined to employees alone, and information concerning them should, so far as practicable, reach every person using, transporting, or storing chemicals. The most practical means for the seller to disseminate this information appears to be by labels affixed to containers of hazardous chemicals; bearing appropriate precautionary statements and instructions stated as simply and briefly as circumstances permit.

In the interest of uniformity and more adequate labeling of chemical products, the Manufacturing Chemists' Association has prepared this Manual for the benefit and guidance of its members. A series of definitions is included in Schedule 1 in order that the terms used may be clearly understood. In addition to the general recommendations contained herein, the MCA has prepared suggested labels for specific products. These have been printed as Manual L-2, which will be supplemented from time to time as additional recommended labels are developed.

A precautionary label does not take the place of safety equipment such as suitable goggles, airline respirators, gas masks, clothing, shoes, etc.

Individual statutes, regulations or ordinances may require that particular information be included on a label or that a specific label be affixed to a container. In each case, the requirements of these laws should also be studied. *The warning labels suggested in this Manual should be used in addition to, or in combination with, any label required by law.**

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* Federal statutes include:

Interstate Commerce Commission Regulations for Transportation of Explosives and Other Dangerous Articles: Supt. of Documents, Govt. Printing Office, Washington, D. C.

Federal Caustic Poison Act and regulations: Food and Drug Administration, Federal Security Agency, Washington, D. C.

Federal Insecticide Act of 1910 and regulations: Agricultural Marketing Administration, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act and regulations: Food and Drug Administration, Federal Security Agency, Washington, D. C.

Related statutes of the 48 States and the District of Columbia include Caustic Acid, Pharmacy, Poison, and Insecticide Acts.

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