



MONTHLY  
SAFETY  
BRIEF  
October 2003  
NAF Atsugi



## What is Hazard Communication (HAZCOM)?



It is **your right-to-know** about the chemicals you use. This program helps you prevent injuries and illness from chemical exposure.



How can we protect ourselves from chemical exposure?

- Hazardous material/chemicals should not be used unless the Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) is available at the facility. Read the MSDSs and the labels, and understand handling, use, storage, disposal and emergency procedures of the chemicals before use.
- The chemical inventory is part of the HAZCOM program. A MSDS binder should be maintained in the main office of each facility. Other hard copies should be maintained at the locations where hazardous chemicals are often used and stored.
- All containers and transfer containers must be labeled. The labels must list the chemical identity, appropriate hazard warning(s) and the name and address of the chemical manufacturer. **Never use containers that are unlabeled.**
- All employees should be provided with information and annual training from their departments, prior to initial assignment to work with a hazardous chemical and whenever a new hazard is introduced into the work areas.

