

**CHEMWATCH**

## Chemwatch Quick Reference Guide

A Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS, sometimes known simply as SDS) outlines the handling requirements and hazards presented by a specific chemical product. In emergency situations such as hazardous material spills, they are an invaluable source of information in determining a safe and appropriate response. The **Chemwatch** website allows users to search for (M)SDS using multiple criteria. A link to Chemwatch is available on Environmental Health and Safety's main page at [concordia.ca/EHS](http://concordia.ca/EHS) or directly via <http://jr.chemwatch.net/chemwatch.web/dashboard>.

The quickest method of accessing an (M)SDS is via the **Simple Search**.

1. Enter the product's **Name OR CAS number\*** (e.g.: 7647-01-0) in the text box as shown.
2. Click **Search**.

\*It is preferable to perform a search using the material's CAS number, if available. A CAS number is a unique numerical identifier assigned to a specific chemical substance. Many materials are known by several names: for example, hydrochloric acid is sometimes called muriatic acid; isopropyl alcohol may also be referred to as isopropanol or rubbing alcohol; etc. A search by CAS number will exclude results that bear a similar name but are in fact a different substance, and will locate results that a search by name may not.



3. Chemwatch will produce a list of results. Select the desired (M)SDS by clicking on an item under the **Material Name** column.



4. The selected (M)SDS will be displayed. (It may take several moments for Chemwatch to render the document).
5. You can select the language (EN/FR)
6. If desired, the document can be printed, sent as an email attachment, or saved as a pdf using the buttons on the top right hand side of the page.