

Block A: Safety Related Functions



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Plumbing Apprenticeship Program Level 1 Series

Block A: Safety Related Functions

BC Plumbing Apprenticeship, Level 1

SKILLEDTRADESBC

*BC PIPING ARTICULATION AND CURRICULUM SUBCOMMITTEE;
AUDREY CURRAN; MARK OVERGAARD; AND PAUL SIMPSON*

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Block A of the Plumbing Apprenticeship Program Level 1 Series features Skilled Trades BC industry-authority content on safety related functions in plumbing. Safety is a part of the job. When you take a job, you have a safety obligation to your employer, co-workers, family, and yourself. By recognizing and understanding the hazards in your work area, you can prevent the occurrence of many accidents. Most accidents are preventable. Both employees and employers must take responsibility for making the workplace safe.

Block A of the Plumbing Apprenticeship Program Level 1 Series focuses on the causes and results of workplace accidents, the short- and long-term hazards in the trades, general safety precautions and procedures, emergency equipment and facilities, how a workplace safety policy is established, lockout and tagout procedures, and ladder and scaffold usage.

Plumbing Apprenticeship Program Level 1 Series

The *Plumbing Apprenticeship Program Level 1 Series* offers comprehensive training materials designed to build on foundational skills and knowledge. The series is divided into four main blocks, each focusing on critical areas of plumbing systems and installations.

Block A: Safety Related Functions

(<https://a-safetyfunctions-bcplumbingapprli.pressbooks.tru.ca>)

A-1: Workplace Hazards

A-2: WorkSafeBC Regulations

A-3: Safe Handling of Hazardous Materials

A-4: Personal Safety Practices

A-5: Fire Safety

Block B: Tools and Equipment

(<https://b-handmeasuringtools-bcplumbingapprli.pressbooks.tru.ca>)

B-1: Use Hand Tools and Measuring Tools

B-2: Use Portable Power Tools and Use

B-3: Use Access Equipment

B-4: Use Rigging, Hoisting, Lifting and Positioning Equipment, and Rigging

B-5: Use Soldering and Brazing Equipment and Oxy-Fuel Cutting Equipment

B-6: Use Welding Equipment

Block C: Routine Trade Activities and Electrical Concepts

(<https://c-tradeactivities-electrical-bcplumbingapprli.pressbooks.tru.ca>)

C-1: Mathematics and Science

C-2: Electrical Concepts and Principles of Electricity
C-3: Drawings and Specifications
C-4: Codes, Regulations and Standards
C-5: Manufacturer and Supplier Documentation

Block D: Piping and Components

(<https://d-pipingcomponents-bcplumbingappri1.pressbooks.tru.ca>)

D-1: Install Pipe and Tubing
D-2: Install Valves
D-3: Install Fittings
D-4: Penetrate Structures

Plumbing Apprenticeship Program Overview and Upcoming Resources

- **Plumbing Apprenticeship Program Level 1 Series** (<https://openpress.trubox.ca/2024/12/13/plumbing-apprentice-level-1/>) can be found in the TRU Open Press Collection.
- **Plumbing Apprenticeship Program Level 2 Series** (<https://openpress.trubox.ca/2024/04/26/bc-plumbing-apprenticeship-level-2/>) can be found in the TRU Open Press Collection.
- **Plumbing Apprenticeship Program Level 3 Series** (<https://collection.bccampus.ca/search/?q=%22pl3%22>) can be found in the BCCampus Open Collection (<https://collection.bccampus.ca/>).
- **Plumbing Apprenticeship Program Level 4 Series** (<https://bccampus.ca/projects/archives/zed-cred-z-degrees/ztc-open-educational-resources-for-trades/>) can be found in the BCCampus Open Collection. (<https://collection.bccampus.ca/>) (Block F: Commission and Service will be available soon.)

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Safety Advisory

The current Standards and Regulation in BC can be obtained at the WorkSafeBC website: <http://www.worksafebc.com> (<http://www.worksafebc.com>)

Please note that it is always the responsibility of any person using these materials to inform themselves about the Occupational Health and Safety Regulation pertaining to their areas of work.

Symbol Legend



Important Information



Potentially Toxic/ Poisonous Situation



Required or Optional Resources



Potentially Flammable Situation



Complete a Self-Test



Possibly Explosive Situation



Use Protective Equipment



Potential Electric Shock

Acknowledgements

The development of the *Plumbing Apprenticeship Level 1* learning resources was a collaborative effort driven by a commitment to excellence in trades education. These resources were created to support apprentices and journeypersons in mastering the skills and knowledge essential to the piping trades. This achievement would not have been possible without the dedication and expertise of *Skilled Trades BC* and the *Piping Trades Articulation Committee*, whose contributions, leadership, and guidance have been instrumental in shaping high-quality, industry-aligned training resources. We extend our sincere gratitude for their contributions and ongoing stewardship in advancing the piping trades.

The content for *Block A: Safety Related Functions* (<https://a-safetyfunctions-bcplumbingapprl1.pressbooks.tru.ca/>) is adapted from the Piping Trades Apprenticeship Program from *SkilledTradesBC* (2019 Harmonized) and the Trades Access Common Core (TACC) (<https://collection.bccampus.ca/search/?q=%22Trades%20Access%20Common%20Core%22>) resources developed by Camosun College, originally created in 2015 and revised in 2019, and made available through BCcampus:

- Line A: Safe Work Practices: Competency A-1: Control Workplace Hazards (<https://collection.bccampus.ca/resource/tQtm8KNK>)
- Line A: Safe Work Practices: Competency A-2: Describe WorkSafeBC Regulations (<https://collection.bccampus.ca/resource/4x48JU bq>)
- Line A: Safe Work Practices: Competency A-3: Handle Hazardous Materials Safely (<https://collection.bccampus.ca/resource/PMfB6kHM>)
- Line A: Safe Work Practices: Competency A-4: Describe Personal Safety Practices (<https://collection.bccampus.ca/resource/xQpDrgQM>)
- Line A: Safe Work Practices: Competency A-5: Describe Fire Safety (<https://collection.bccampus.ca/resource/VPwUd4rq>)

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Resource Development Team 2024-2026

Content Review, Revision, and Development: BC Plumbing Articulation Curriculum Subcommittee and Audrey Curran

Final Content Review and Revisions: Audrey Curran and Mark Overgaard, BCIT

Project Lead (TRU Plumbing Trades): Paul Simpson, Curriculum Subcommittee Chair

Author: SkilledTradesBC

Publishing Manager/ Copy Editing: Dani Collins, MEd

Production: Jessica Obando Almache, BCS

- Co-op Students:
 - Greg Vilac
 - Riley Phillips
 - Vansh Sethi
 - Jesse Perkins
 - Daniel Abdulai
 - Kobe Shimoyama
 - Jose Contreras Antequera

Resources

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- Trades Training BC

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To order printed copies of Program Outlines or learning resources (where available) for BC Trades, contact:

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Starting December 1, 2022, Industry Training Authority was officially renamed to SkilledTradesBC. Hear more in this video from SkilledTradesBC CEO, Shelley Gray, on what this means for the trades industry and British Columbians. Closed captioning and transcripts are available with this video, Introducing Skilled Trades BC (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OQgwdP0rNog>) (2022) on YouTube.



One or more interactive elements has been excluded from this version of the text. You can view them online here: <https://a-safetyfunctions-bcplumbingappr1.pressbooks.tru.ca/?p=1164> (<https://a-safetyfunctions-bcplumbingappr1.pressbooks.tru.ca/?p=1164>)

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- Camosun College. (n.d.). *Line A: Safe work practices*. BCcampus. <https://collection.bccampus.ca/textbook/tQtm8KNK/>
- SkilledTradesBC. (2025). Plumber program outline (Implementation date: August 18, 2025; Last revised: December 16, 2025) [PDF]. Province of British Columbia. <https://skilledtradesbc.ca/media/2776/download>
- SkilledTradesBC. (2022, December 1). Introducing Skilled Trades BC. YouTube. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OQgwdP0rNog>

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Other Formats Available

- In addition to the web version, this book is available in a number of file formats, including PDF. The Print PDF has passed our Accessibility Check.

Glossary - Block A: Safety Related Functions

“no-fault” insurance

A worker can receive compensation for a work-related injury or illness without having to prove who caused the accident. (Section A-2.2 (#chapter-a-2-2-describe-wca-conditions-of-compensation))

absolute limit of approach

The closest distance allowed between people or equipment and live power lines. (Section A-1.4 (#chapter-a-1-4-describe-general-safety-precautions-and-procedures))

accident

An unexpected event at work that causes injury or harm, such as slipping on a wet floor or getting hurt while using tools. (Section A-2.1 (#chapter-a-2-1-define-terms-used-in-the-workers-compensation-act))

air-purifying respirator

A respirator that filters harmful particles or gases from the air. (Section A-4.1 (#chapter-a-4-1-describe-safety-gear-and-work-clothing))

airborne fibres

Tiny thread-like particles in the air that can be breathed into the lungs and cause serious health problems. (Section A-1.3 (#chapter-a-1-3-describe-long-term-hazards-in-the-trades))

airborne hazards

Hazards made of tiny particles or gases that float in the air and can be breathed into the lungs. (Section A-1.3 (#chapter-a-1-3-describe-long-term-hazards-in-the-trades))

anchorage/anchor point

A secure point where fall protection equipment is attached. (Section A-4.2 (#chapter-a-4-2-describe-fall-protection-systems))

angle of repose

The steepest angle that soil or sand can be piled without sliding or falling. In trenching and excavation work, knowing the angle of repose helps workers decide how much to slope the sides of a trench so the soil stays stable and does not collapse. (Section A-1.2 (#chapter-a-1-2-describe-short-term-hazards-in-the-trades))

ANSI approval

A certification that shows a product meets safety standards set by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI). If equipment has ANSI approval, it has been tested to make sure it meets certain safety requirements. (Section A-4.1 (#chapter-a-4-1-describe-safety-gear-and-work-clothing))

arsenic

A poisonous metal often used in wood preservatives that can cause serious health problems. (Section A-1.3 (#chapter-a-1-3-describe-long-term-hazards-in-the-trades))

asbestos

A dangerous material once used in buildings that can release tiny fibres into the air when disturbed. (Section A-1.3 (#chapter-a-1-3-describe-long-term-hazards-in-the-trades))

asbestosis

A serious lung disease caused by breathing in asbestos fibres over a long time. (Section A-1.3 (#chapter-a-1-3-describe-long-term-hazards-in-the-trades))

assessment fee

Money that employers in British Columbia must pay to WorkSafeBC to help cover the costs of workplace safety programs, inspections, and injury claims. (Section A-2.2 (#chapter-a-2-2-describe-wca-conditions-of-compensation))

autoignition temperature

The temperature at which a substance ignites on its own without a spark or flame. (Section A-5.1 (#chapter-a-5-1-describe-the-conditions-necessary-to-support-a-fire))

axle

A rod that holds a wheel in place and allows it to turn. (Section A-4.3 (#chapter-a-4-3-lift-and-move-objects-safely))

benching

A way to make a trench safer by cutting the sides into flat steps, like stairs. These steps help support the soil and reduce the chance of the trench walls collapsing while workers are inside. (Section A-1.2 (#chapter-a-1-2-describe-short-term-hazards-in-the-trades))

blind flange

A solid metal plate bolted to the end of a pipe to completely block the flow of liquid or gas, making the pipe safe to work on.

blocking

Wood or material placed under an object to lift it off the ground. (Section A-4.3 (#chapter-a-4-3-lift-and-move-objects-safely))

Board

(Workers' Compensation Board) The group that runs workers' compensation. It decides rules, helps injured workers, and makes sure workplaces follow safety laws. (Section A-2.1 (#chapter-a-2-1-define-terms-used-in-the-workers-compensation-act))

boom lift/scissor lift

A machine used to lift people and tools to work at heights. It raises a platform or bucket off the ground so workers can safely reach high places. A boom lift can move up, down, and sideways, while a scissor lift moves straight up and down.

cadmium

A highly toxic metal found in some batteries and metals that can damage the lungs and kidneys. (Section A-1.3 (#chapter-a-1-3-describe-long-term-hazards-in-the-trades))

Canadian testing certification label (CSA, ULC)

A Canadian testing certification label is a safety mark on tools or equipment that shows they have been tested and approved to be safe for use in Canada by organizations like Canadian Standards Association (CSA) or Underwriters Laboratories of Canada (ULC). (Section A-1.4)

carabiner

An oblong-shaped metal connecting device with a locking gate used to attach different components of a personal fall protection system. (Section A-4.2 (#chapter-a-4-2-describe-fall-protection-systems))

category (type)

A classification that shows how dangerous a hazard is. Lower numbers or earlier letters usually mean more danger. (Section A-3.1) (#chapter-a-3-1-explain-the-hazardous-products-legislation)

chemical chain reaction

A continuing chemical process that keeps a fire burning once it has started. (Section A-5.1 (#chapter-a-5-1-describe-the-conditions-necessary-to-support-a-fire))

circuit breaker

A safety switch in an electrical system that automatically turns off the power if too much electricity flows through a circuit. This helps prevent wires from overheating and protects buildings and devices from electrical fires or damage. (Section A-1.2 (#chapter-a-1-2-describe-short-term-hazards-in-the-trades))

claim

An official request made to WorkSafeBC for compensation after a worker is injured or becomes ill because of work. (Section A-2.4 (#chapter-a-2-4-describe-the-wca-requirements-for-reporting-workplace-accidents))

class of fire

A category that describes the type of material that is burning. (Section A-5.2 (#chapter-a-5-2-identify-class-of-fires-and-extinguishers))

combustible material

A substance that can catch fire and burn. (Section A-5.1 (#chapter-a-5-1-describe-the-conditions-necessary-to-support-a-fire))

combustion

Burning; a chemical reaction that produces heat and often light. (Section A-5.1 (#chapter-a-5-1-describe-the-conditions-necessary-to-support-a-fire))

compensation

Money or support given to a worker who is hurt at work, to help pay for things like medical care or time off work. (Section A-2.1 (#chapter-a-2-1-define-terms-used-in-the-workers-compensation-act))

compliance

Following the rules and laws that are in place, such as workplace safety rules set by WorkSafeBC. (Section A-2.5 (#chapter-a-2-5-use-the-occupational-health-and-safety-regulation))

confined space

A small, enclosed area with limited entry and exit that is not meant for people to stay in for long periods. (Section A-1.4 (#chapter-a-1-4-describe-general-safety-precautions-and-procedures))

construction

Work that involves building, fixing, or repairing things like houses, buildings, pipes, or plumbing systems. (Section A-2.1 (#chapter-a-2-1-define-terms-used-in-the-workers-compensation-act))

construction heater

A portable heater used at building sites to keep the air warm while workers are constructing or repairing a building. It helps dry materials like paint or concrete and keeps workers safe and comfortable in cold weather. Construction heaters can run on electricity, propane, natural gas, or diesel fuel. (Section A-5.3 (#chapter-a-5-3-apply-preventive-fire-safety-precautions))

control zone

A marked area within a minimum of 2 metres of the edge of a structure or building that has a flat or low-sloped roof where special safety rules apply. (Section A-4.2 (#chapter-a-4-2-describe-fall-protection-systems))

cooling

In fire safety, means lowering the temperature of a fire, usually by adding water, so it no longer has enough heat to keep burning. (Section A-5.1 (#chapter-a-5-1-describe-the-conditions-necessary-to-support-a-fire))

corrosive

Something that can burn, eat away, or damage materials like skin, eyes, or metal. Corrosive substances can cause serious injuries if they touch your body, so they must be handled very carefully. (Section A-3.5 (#chapter-a-3-5-identify-pictograms-found-on-whmis-labels))

CSA approved

Certified by the Canadian Standards Association to meet safety standards. (Section A-4.1 (#chapter-a-4-1-describe-safety-gear-and-work-clothing))

deceleration device

A safety device used in fall protection that slows down a person during a fall to reduce the force of impact and help prevent serious injury. (Section A-4.2 (#chapter-a-4-2-describe-fall-protection-systems))

dependant

A person who relies on a worker for money or care, such as a child or a spouse. (Section A-2.1 (#chapter-a-2-1-define-terms-used-in-the-workers-compensation-act))

dermatitis

A skin problem that causes redness, dryness, or irritation. (Section A-4.1 (#chapter-a-4-1-describe-safety-gear-and-work-clothing))

direct costs (of an injury)

The easiest injury costs to see and understand; they include emergency room and doctor visits, medical bills, medicines, rehabilitation, and lost wages. Direct costs are covered by a company's insurance. (Section A-1.1 (#chapter-a-1-1-describe-the-causes-and-results-of-accidents))

dry chemical extinguisher

A fire extinguisher that uses powder to put out a fire. (Section A-5.2 (#chapter-a-5-2-identify-class-of-fires-and-extinguishers))

dusts

Very small, dry particles that float in the air and can be breathed in, sometimes causing lung damage. (Section A-1.3 (#chapter-a-1-3-describe-long-term-hazards-in-the-trades))

egress

A safe way to get out of a place. It usually refers to doors, hallways, stairs, or exits that people use to leave a building quickly and safely, especially in an emergency. (Section A-1.2 (#chapter-a-1-2-describe-short-term-hazards-in-the-trades))

emergency exit

A clearly marked way out of a building that is used during an emergency. (Section A-1.5 (#chapter-a-1-5-describe-emergency-equipment-and-facilities))

emergency shutdown system (panic button)

A switch that quickly turns off power to equipment during an emergency. (Section A-1.5 (#chapter-a-1-5-describe-emergency-equipment-and-facilities))

employer

A person or company that hires workers and pays them to do a job, such as a plumbing business owner. (Section A-2.1 (#chapter-a-2-1-define-terms-used-in-the-workers-compensation-act))

employment

Having a job where a person works for an employer and gets paid. (Section A-2.1 (#chapter-a-2-1-define-terms-used-in-the-workers-compensation-act))

energized electrical equipment

Electrical equipment that is connected to power. (Section A-5.2 (#chapter-a-5-2-identify-class-of-fires-and-extinguishers))

ergonomics

How your body fits and works with your tools and workspace. (Section A-4.3 (#chapter-a-4-3-lift-and-move-objects-safely))

excavation

The removal of ground material by digging in order to bury or access pipelines, conduits, foundations, etc. (Section A-1.2 (#chapter-a-1-2-describe-short-term-hazards-in-the-trades))

excluded

In WHMIS, a product or situation that is not covered by certain federal or provincial WHMIS rules. Even when a product is excluded, workers must still be told about any health or safety risks and how to use the product safely. (Section A-3.3 (#chapter-a-3-3-describe-the-labelling-of-controlled-products))

extinguishing agent

A substance used to put out a fire. (Section A-5.1 (#chapter-a-5-1-describe-the-conditions-necessary-to-support-a-fire))

fall restraint system

A system that prevents a worker from reaching an edge where they could fall. (Section A-4.2 (#chapter-a-4-2-describe-fall-protection-systems))

fire extinguisher

A portable device used to put out small fires when they first start. (Section A-1.5 (#chapter-a-1-5-describe-emergency-equipment-and-facilities))

fire sprinkler system

A system in a building that sprays water automatically when it detects heat from a fire. (Section A-5.4 (#chapter-a-5-4-describe-first-response-firefighting))

fire tetrahedron

A model that adds a chemical chain reaction as the fourth part needed to sustain a fire. (Section A-5.1 (#chapter-a-5-1-describe-the-conditions-necessary-to-support-a-fire))

fire triangle

A model showing that fuel, oxygen, and heat are needed for a fire to start. (Section A-5.1 (#chapter-a-5-1-describe-the-conditions-necessary-to-support-a-fire))

fire watch

A trained person who watches for fires during and after hot work. (Section A-5.3 (#chapter-a-5-3-apply-preventive-fire-safety-precautions))

firefighting equipment

tools used to control or put out fires. (Section A-5.4 (#chapter-a-5-4-describe-first-response-firefighting))

first aid station

A place where supplies and equipment are kept to treat injuries until medical help arrives. (Section A-1.5 (#chapter-a-1-5-describe-emergency-equipment-and-facilities))

first-response firefighting

Putting out a small fire right away before it grows bigger. (Section A-5.4 (#chapter-a-5-4-describe-first-response-firefighting))

flammable

Able to catch fire easily. (Section A-5.2 (#chapter-a-5-2-identify-class-of-fires-and-extinguishers))

flammable liquids

Liquids that can easily catch fire, especially when their vapours mix with air. (Section A-1.4 (#chapter-a-1-4-describe-general-safety-precautions-and-procedures))

flashpoint

The lowest temperature at which a liquid gives off vapour that can ignite with a spark or flame. (Section A-5.1 (#chapter-a-5-1-describe-the-conditions-necessary-to-support-a-fire))

forklift

A powered machine used to lift and move heavy loads. (Section A-4.3 (#chapter-a-4-3-lift-and-move-objects-safely))

fraudulent claim

A false or dishonest report about a work injury or illness, made to try to receive benefits that the worker is not entitled to. (Section A-2.2 (#chapter-a-2-2-describe-wca-conditions-of-compensation))

fuel

In fire safety, any material that can burn. (Section A-5.1 (#chapter-a-5-1-describe-the-conditions-necessary-to-support-a-fire))

fuel source

The material that is burning in a fire. (Section A-5.4 (#chapter-a-5-4-describe-first-response-firefighting))

full body harness

A safety harness worn over the shoulders and legs to protect a worker during a fall. (Section A-4.2 (#chapter-a-4-2-describe-fall-protection-systems))

fume inhalation

Breathing in harmful smoke or gases. (Section A-5.4 (#chapter-a-5-4-describe-first-response-firefighting))

gas

A low-density chemical compound that normally fills the space in which it is released. It has no physical shape or form.

Globally Harmonized System of Classification (GHS)

An international system that uses the same symbols, labels, and safety information to explain the dangers of chemicals and how to use them safely. (Section A-3.1 (#chapter-a-3-1-explain-the-hazardous-products-legislation))

ground fault circuit interrupter (GFCI)

A safety device that quickly shuts off electricity to prevent shocks. (Section A-1.4 (#chapter-a-1-4-describe-general-safety-precautions-and-procedures))

grounding

Connecting electrical tools or equipment to the ground so electricity can flow safely if there is a fault. (Section A-1.4 (#chapter-a-1-4-describe-general-safety-precautions-and-procedures))

guardrails

Safety barriers placed along edges or openings to prevent falls. (Section A-1.4 (#chapter-a-1-4-describe-general-safety-precautions-and-procedures))

hazard

Anything at work that could cause injury, illness, or harm, such as unsafe tools, chemicals, or dangerous conditions. (Section A-2.1 (#chapter-a-2-1-define-terms-used-in-the-workers-compensation-act))

hazard assessment

Identifying physical and health hazards in the workplace. (Section A-1.1 (#chapter-a-1-1-describe-the-causes-and-results-of-accidents)).

hazard classes

A group that shows the type of danger a product has, such as fire or health risks. (Section A-3.1 (#chapter-a-3-1-explain-the-hazardous-products-legislation))

hazardous atmosphere

Air that is dangerous to breathe because it contains smoke, chemicals, or toxic gases. (Section A-5.4 (#chapter-a-5-4-describe-first-response-firefighting))

hazardous product

A substance that can harm people or cause damage if it is not used safely. (Section A-3.1 (#chapter-a-3-1-explain-the-hazardous-products-legislation))

health hazard

Examples include: overexposure to harmful dusts, chemicals, or radiation. (Section A-1.1 (#chapter-a-1-1-describe-the-causes-and-results-of-accidents) and Section A-3.1 (#chapter-a-3-1-explain-the-hazardous-products-legislation))

health-care benefits

Cover the cost of medical care a worker needs after being hurt or becoming ill at work, such as doctor visits, hospital care, medicine, or therapy. (Section A-2.2 (#chapter-a-2-2-describe-wca-conditions-of-compensation))

heavy metals (toxic metals)

Metals that can build up in the body over time and cause serious health problems: lead, mercury, arsenic, and cadmium. (Section A-1.3 (#chapter-a-1-3-describe-long-term-hazards-in-the-trades))

high-visibility apparel

Clothing that is bright and easy to see, especially around vehicles or machinery. (Section A-4.1 (#chapter-a-4-1-describe-safety-gear-and-work-clothing))

hoist

A device used to lift heavy objects using a rope or chain. (Section A-4.3 (#chapter-a-4-3-lift-and-move-objects-safely))

horseplay

Rough play, joking, or fighting at work that can cause accidents or injuries. (Section A-1.4 (#chapter-a-1-4-describe-general-safety-precautions-and-procedures))

Hot work

Any process or temporary work done that could result in a fire.

hot work permit

A written safety approval required before doing work that creates heat or sparks. (Section A-5.3 (#chapter-a-5-3-apply-preventive-fire-safety-precautions))

housekeeping

Keeping the work area clean, organized, and free of clutter to prevent accidents. (Section A-1.4 (#chapter-a-1-4-describe-general-safety-precautions-and-procedures))

hydraulic shoring

A way to keep a trench safe by using metal supports pushed into place with hydraulic pressure. These supports press against the trench walls to stop the soil from collapsing while workers are inside. (Section A-1.2 (#chapter-a-1-2-describe-short-term-hazards-in-the-trades))

hydrocarbons

Chemical substances made of hydrogen and carbon that can burn, such as gasoline. (Section A-5.3 (#chapter-a-5-3-apply-preventive-fire-safety-precautions))

hypothermia

The condition in which your body loses heat at a rate greater than you are able to produce it. (Section A-1.1)

ignition temperature

The temperature at which a substance starts to burn. (Section A-5.1 (#chapter-a-5-1-describe-the-conditions-necessary-to-support-a-fire))

in the course of employment

An injury or illness happened while a worker was doing something connected to their job, even if it did not happen directly at the worksite. (Section A-2.2 (#chapter-a-2-2-describe-wca-conditions-of-compensation))

incident

An event at work that causes, or could cause, an injury or illness, such as a fall, cut, or equipment malfunction. (Section A-2.4)

incipient-stage fire

A very small fire that has just started. (Section A-5.4 (#chapter-a-5-4-describe-first-response-firefighting))

indirect costs (of an injury)

Often overlooked; costs can amount to up to four times the direct cost of the injury; include administrative time dealing with the injury and medical care, loss of production, raises in premiums, replacing the injured employee's lost hours of employment by hiring another employee, loss of reputation and confidence in employees and clients, unwanted media attention, and more.

industry

A group of businesses that do the same type of work, such as plumbing, construction, or trades. (Section A-2.1 (#chapter-a-2-1-define-terms-used-in-the-workers-compensation-act))

insurance premiums

Regular payments employers make to WorkSafeBC to pay for workplace insurance, which helps cover the costs of injuries, illnesses, and lost wages. (Section A-2.2 (#chapter-a-2-2-describe-wca-conditions-of-compensation))

issues contravening the Act or Regulation

Problems at work where the rules for health and safety are not being followed. For example, if safety gear is missing, training was not provided, or unsafe work is allowed. (Section A-2.3 (#chapter-a-2-3-state-the-responsibilities-of-employers-workers-and-others-at-the-workplace))

Job Safety Analysis (JSA)

Each step of a task is examined for potential hazards. (Section A-1.1 (#chapter-a-1-1-describe-the-causes-and-results-of-accidents))

label

A safety tag or sticker on a product container that shows hazards, symbols, and basic safety information. (Section A-3.2 (#chapter-a-3-2-describe-the-key-elements-of-whmis))

lanyard

A flexible line of webbing, or a synthetic or wire rope used to secure a safety belt or full body harness to a lifeline or anchor. (Section A-4.2 (#chapter-a-4-2-describe-fall-protection-systems))

lead

A toxic metal sometimes found in old paint or pipes that can cause poisoning if breathed in or swallowed. (Section A-1.3 (#chapter-a-1-3-describe-long-term-hazards-in-the-trades))

lifeline

A rope or cable that connects a worker to a secure anchor point. (Section A-4.2)

long-term average net earnings

Used to calculate compensation when a worker is unable to return to work for **more than 10 weeks**, using special rules to fairly reflect the worker's normal earnings. (Section A-2.2 (#chapter-a-2-2-describe-wca-conditions-of-compensation))

Long-term hazards

Dangers that harm your health slowly over time instead of causing an immediate injury. (Section A-1.3 (#chapter-a-1-3-describe-long-term-hazards-in-the-trades))

means of egress

A safe way to exit a building during an emergency

mechanical assistance

Machines or equipment used to help lift or move heavy objects. (Section A-4.3 (#chapter-a-4-3-lift-and-move-objects-safely))

member of family

A close relative, such as a parent, child, sibling, or spouse. (Section A-2.1 (#chapter-a-2-1-define-terms-used-in-the-workers-compensation-act))

mercury

A toxic metal that can harm the brain and nervous system if people are exposed to it. (Section A-1.3 (#chapter-a-1-3-describe-long-term-hazards-in-the-trades))

mould

A type of fungus that grows on damp materials and releases spores that can make people sick. (Section A-1.3 (#chapter-a-1-3-describe-long-term-hazards-in-the-trades))

multipurpose extinguisher

An extinguisher that can be used on more than one class of fire. (Section A-5.2 (#chapter-a-5-2-identify-class-of-fires-and-extinguishers))

Musculoskeletal Injuries (MSI) / Repetitive Strain Injuries (RSI):

Injuries that affect muscles, joints, tendons, ligaments, or nerves and often happen from repeated movements, heavy lifting, or working in awkward positions over time. These injuries can cause pain, stiffness, or swelling and usually develop slowly rather than all at once.

muster point

A muster point is a safe meeting place where everyone goes during an emergency so workers can be counted and kept safe. (Section A-1.5)

negative-pressure respirator

A respirator that pulls air through a filter when you breathe in. (Section A-4.1 (#chapter-a-4-1-describe-safety-gear-and-work-clothing))

noise reduction ratings (NRR)

A number that shows how much noise hearing protection can block. (Section A-4.1 (#chapter-a-4-1-describe-safety-gear-and-work-clothing))

obligation

Something a person is required to do by law or rules, such as reporting a workplace injury.

occupational disease

An illness caused by a worker's job or work environment, such as lung disease from dust or hearing loss from loud noise. (Section A-2.4)

off-gassing

The release of chemicals from non-metallic substances; anytime there's an odour from a substance, that's off-gassing; some off-gassing is odourless, which makes detection difficult.

OHS Regulation

(Occupational Health and Safety regulation) a set of safety rules that explain how workplaces must protect workers' health and safety. (Section A-2.5 (#chapter-a-2-5-use-the-occupational-health-and-safety-regulation))

open flange

The end of a pipe where the flange is not covered or sealed, allowing liquid or gas to flow through the pipe.

oxidation

A chemical reaction where a substance combines with oxygen. (Section A-5.1 (#chapter-a-5-1-describe-the-conditions-necessary-to-support-a-fire))

oxidizing agent

A substance that helps something burn by providing oxygen or a similar effect. (Section A-5.1 (#chapter-a-5-1-describe-the-conditions-necessary-to-support-a-fire))

oxygen

A gas in the air that supports burning. (Section A-5.1 (#chapter-a-5-1-describe-the-conditions-necessary-to-support-a-fire))

ozone layer

A protective layer in the atmosphere that shields Earth from harmful sun rays. (Section A-5.2 (#chapter-a-5-2-identify-class-of-fires-and-extinguishers))

permanent disability benefits

Payments given to a worker who has a lasting injury that affects their ability to work, even after medical treatment is finished. (Section A-2.2 (#chapter-a-2-2-describe-wca-conditions-of-compensation))

person

Any human being, including a worker, employer, or family member. (Section A-2.1 (#chapter-a-2-1-define-terms-used-in-the-workers-compensation-act))

personal protective equipment (PPE)

Safety gear such as gloves, goggles, or boots worn to protect the body. (Section A-1.4 (#chapter-a-1-4-describe-general-safety-precautions-and-procedures); Section A-4.1 (#chapter-a-4-1-describe-safety-gear-and-work-clothing))

physical hazard

Examples: moving objects, fluctuating temperatures, high-intensity lighting, rolling or pinching hazards, electrical connections, and sharp edges (Section A-1.1 (#chapter-a-1-1-describe-the-causes-and-results-of-accidents) and Section A-3. (#chapter-a-3-1-explain-the-hazardous-products-legislation)1).

pictogram

A symbol that quickly shows what kind of hazard a product has; used on safety labels in WHMIS. (Section A-3.1 (#chapter-a-3-1-explain-the-hazardous-products-legislation))

pivot

To turn your whole body using your feet instead of twisting your back. (Section A-4.3 (#chapter-a-4-3-lift-and-move-objects-safely))

portable fire extinguisher

A small device you can carry that sprays chemicals or water to put out a fire. (Section A-5.4 (#chapter-a-5-4-describe-first-response-firefighting))

positive pressure respirator

A respirator that pushes clean air into the mask to keep harmful air out. (Section A-4.1 (#chapter-a-4-1-describe-safety-gear-and-work-clothing))

posture

The way you hold your body when standing, sitting, or lifting. (Section A-4.3 (#chapter-a-4-3-lift-and-move-objects-safely))

pressurized

Containing air or gas that is tightly packed inside to push something out. (Section A-5.4 (#chapter-a-5-4-describe-first-response-firefighting))

pressurized cylinders

Strong containers that hold gases under high pressure. (Section A-5.3 (#chapter-a-5-3-apply-preventive-fire-safety-precautions))

Procedure for refusal

The process a worker follows when they have reasonable cause to believe that doing a task or using equipment would create an undue hazard and could put them in danger. (Section A-2.5 (#chapter-a-2-5-use-the-occupational-health-and-safety-regulation))

proximity work

Work done close to a hazard without touching it, which requires extra caution. (Section A-1.4 (#chapter-a-1-4-describe-general-safety-precautions-and-procedures))

purged

Cleaned out to remove gases or dangerous substances. (Section A-5.3 (#chapter-a-5-3-apply-preventive-fire-safety-precautions))

reasonable cause to believe

Having a good and sensible reason to think something is unsafe, based on what a typical worker would notice or understand. (Section A-2.5 (#chapter-a-2-5-use-the-occupational-health-and-safety-regulation))

reconsider

To look at a decision again to see if it should be changed. (Section A-2.1 (#chapter-a-2-1-define-terms-used-in-the-workers-compensation-act))

regulation

A rule made to explain how a law should be followed, such as safety rules for plumbing work. (Section A-2.1 (#chapter-a-2-1-define-terms-used-in-the-workers-compensation-act))

reignite

To start burning again after being put out (Section A-5.4 (#chapter-a-5-4-describe-first-response-firefighting))

residue

Material left behind after something is used. (Section A-5.2 (#chapter-a-5-2-identify-class-of-fires-and-extinguishers))

respirator

A mask or device worn to protect your lungs from dust, fumes, or harmful gases. (Section A-4.1 (#chapter-a-4-1-describe-safety-gear-and-work-clothing))

retirement benefit

Money paid to a worker after they stop working, often because they are older or injured. (Section A-2.1 (#chapter-a-2-1-define-terms-used-in-the-workers-compensation-act))

retractable lifeline

A safety line that automatically extends and retracts as a worker moves. If the worker falls, the lifeline quickly locks to stop the fall and help prevent injury. (Section A-4.2 (#chapter-a-4-2-describe-fall-protection-systems))

rope grab

A device used to connect the lanyard to a vertical lifeline; it moves along the lifeline and locks in place if a fall occurs. (Section A-4.2 (#chapter-a-4-2-describe-fall-protection-systems))

rope-and-pulley system

A lifting system that uses a rope and wheel to raise heavy items. (Section A-4.3 (#chapter-a-4-3-lift-and-move-objects-safely))

safety awareness

Being alert and paying attention to your surroundings to avoid danger at work. (Section A-1.4 (#chapter-a-1-4-describe-general-safety-precautions-and-procedures))

safety data sheets (SDSs)

Documents that explain the hazards of a product and give important information on how to use, store, and handle it safely, and what to do in an emergency. (Section A-3.1 (#chapter-a-3-1-explain-the-hazardous-products-legislation) and Section A-3.2 (#chapter-a-3-2-describe-the-key-elements-of-whmis))

safety monitor

A trained person who watches workers in a control zone to help prevent falls. (Section A-4.2 (#chapter-a-4-2-describe-fall-protection-systems))

safety orientation

A meeting or training that explains job site rules, hazards, and emergency procedures before work begins. (Section A-1.4 (#chapter-a-1-4-describe-general-safety-precautions-and-procedures))

scaffold

A temporary platform used to work at heights. (Section A-4.3 (#chapter-a-4-3-lift-and-move-objects-safely))

Self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA)

A breathing device with its own air tank worn on the back. (Section A-4.1 (#chapter-a-4-1-describe-safety-gear-and-work-clothing))

services for families coping with a work-related death

Services that provide financial support and help to the family of a worker who dies because of a work-related injury or illness. (Section A-2.2 (#chapter-a-2-2-describe-wca-conditions-of-compensation))

short circuit

An electrical problem where electricity flows the wrong way and can cause sparks or fire. (Section A-5.3 (#chapter-a-5-3-apply-preventive-fire-safety-precautions))

short-term average net earnings

Used to calculate a worker's compensation for the first 10 weeks after a work-related injury or illness, based on the worker's usual take-home pay. (Section A-2.2 (#chapter-a-2-2-describe-wca-conditions-of-compensation))

short-term hazard

Any hazard that may cause injury and/or illness and that may be remedied in a short period of time. (Section A-1.2 (#chapter-a-1-2-describe-short-term-hazards-in-the-trades))

smothering

In fire safety, means putting out a fire by cutting off its oxygen supply, so the fire cannot continue to burn. (Section A-5.1 (#chapter-a-5-1-describe-the-conditions-necessary-to-support-a-fire))

snap hook

A self-locking metal hook used to connect lanyards to rope grabs, harnesses, and horizontal lifelines on fall protection equipment. (Section A-4.2 (#chapter-a-4-2-describe-fall-protection-systems))

space heaters

A portable heater used to warm a room or work area. (Section A-5.3 (#chapter-a-5-3-apply-preventive-fire-safety-precautions))

spade (or "frying pan")

A round plate with a small tab that is placed between two pipe flanges in order to lock out certain piping sections.

spectacle blind (or spectacle flange)

A metal safety device placed between pipe flanges to stop liquid or gas from flowing through a pipe. It has one solid side that blocks the pipe and one open side that allows flow. Turning it to the solid side makes the pipe safe to work on by fully blocking the flow.

spinal column

The backbone that supports your body and protects your spinal cord. (Section A-4.3 (#chapter-a-4-3-lift-and-move-objects-safely))

starvation

In fire safety, putting out a fire by removing its fuel source so it no longer has anything to burn. (Section A-5.1 (#chapter-a-5-1-describe-the-conditions-necessary-to-support-a-fire))

static grounding system

A safety system that removes built-up electricity to prevent sparks. (Section A-5.3 (#chapter-a-5-3-apply-preventive-fire-safety-precautions))

sun protection factor (SPF)

A number that shows how well sunscreen protects your skin from sunburn. (Section A-4.1 (#chapter-a-4-1-describe-safety-gear-and-work-clothing))

supplier label

The label placed on a product by the supplier that shows hazards and safe handling information. (Section A-3.1 (#chapter-a-3-1-explain-the-hazardous-products-legislation))

supplier labels

Safety labels put on hazardous products by the supplier. They show important information such as hazards, symbols, and safety warnings to help workers use the product safely. (Section A-3.2)

suspension system

The adjustable strap system inside a hard hat that helps absorb impact. (Section A-4.1 (#chapter-a-4-1-describe-safety-gear-and-work-clothing))

Task Safety Analysis (TSA)

Often used for routine or recurring tasks, which involves completing a pre-printed checklist. (Section A-1.1 (#chapter-a-1-1-describe-the-causes-and-results-of-accidents))

Teleclaim

A phone-based reporting service offered by WorkSafeBC that lets workers or employers report a workplace injury or occupational disease by telephone rather than submitting a form online or on paper.

timber and plank shoring

A way to keep a trench safe by using wooden boards and supports to hold up the sides of the trench. The wood is placed against the trench walls to help stop the soil from collapsing while workers are inside. (Section A-1.2 (#chapter-a-1-2-describe-short-term-hazards-in-the-trades))

Transportation of Dangerous Goods Regulations (TDG)

A Canadian system that uses special labels and colours to warn people about dangerous materials being moved from one place to another. Some colours, like orange, are already used by TDG to show specific dangers (such as explosives), so those colours cannot be used for other safety labels because it could cause confusion.

Trench shields (or trench boxes)

Prefabricated structures. These are not adjustable within the trench and are designed to protect the workers,

should a collapse occur, whereas shoring is designed to prevent the walls from collapsing. (Figure 3, Section A-1.2 (#chapter-a-1-2-describe-short-term-hazards-in-the-trades))

trench shoring

A way to hold up the sides of a trench so they do not fall in. Strong supports, such as metal or wooden panels, are placed against the trench walls to keep workers safe while they work inside. (Section A-1.2 (#chapter-a-1-2-describe-short-term-hazards-in-the-trades))

trench sloping

A way to make a trench safer by cutting the sides at an angle instead of straight up and down. The sloped sides help stop the soil from collapsing into the trench. (Section A-1.2 (#chapter-a-1-2-describe-short-term-hazards-in-the-trades))

trenches

Special types of excavations in which the depth exceeds the width. Sometimes the terms excavation and trench are used interchangeably, but there is a difference: trenches are narrow and workers can easily become trapped. (Section A-1.2 (#chapter-a-1-2-describe-short-term-hazards-in-the-trades))

ultraviolet (UV) rays

Invisible rays from the sun that can damage your skin. (Section A-4.1 (#chapter-a-4-1-describe-safety-gear-and-work-clothing))

ultraviolet protection factor (UPF)

A number that shows how well clothing blocks harmful UV rays. (Section A-4.1 (#chapter-a-4-1-describe-safety-gear-and-work-clothing))

undue hazard

A serious or unnecessary danger that could cause harm to a worker. (Section A-2.5 (#chapter-a-2-5-use-the-occupational-health-and-safety-regulation))

utilities (shutoffs)

Services like electricity, water, and gas, and the switches or valves used to turn them off in an emergency. (Section A-1.5 (#chapter-a-1-5-describe-emergency-equipment-and-facilities))

vapour

A gas produced by evaporation.

ventilation

Moving fresh air into a work area to remove harmful fumes, gases, or dust. (Section A-1.4 (#chapter-a-1-4-describe-general-safety-precautions-and-procedures))

volatile organic compounds (VOCs)

Chemicals that often come from various household products like paints, lacquer, printers, pesticides, cleaning supplies, carpets and adhesives; known to cause nose and throat irritation, headaches, nausea, and damage to the

central nervous system. Always increase ventilation during the period of VOC off-gassing and consider using an air purifier.

wage-loss benefits

Payments given to a worker who cannot work because of a job-related injury or illness, to replace some of the wages they are missing. (Section A-2.2 (#chapter-a-2-2-describe-wca-conditions-of-compensation))

work platforms

Elevated or suspended surfaces, such as scaffolds or lifts, used to work at heights. (Section A-1.4 (#chapter-a-1-4-describe-general-safety-precautions-and-procedures))

worker

A person who does a job for an employer, such as a plumber or construction worker. (Section A-2.1 (#chapter-a-2-1-define-terms-used-in-the-workers-compensation-act))

Workers Compensation Act

A law that explains how workers are protected if they are injured or become ill because of their job, and how employers must help pay for this protection. (Section A-2.2 (#chapter-a-2-2-describe-wca-conditions-of-compensation))

Workers' Compensation Boards (WCB)

Independent agents that enforce provincial mandates in the area of workers' health and safety and compensation. WorkSafeBC is the agent for WCB in British Columbia. (Section A-1.1 (#chapter-a-1-1-describe-the-causes-and-results-of-accidents))

Workplace Hazardous Materials Information System (WHMIS)

A safety system that helps workers understand the dangers of hazardous products and how to use them safely at work. (Section A-3.2 (#chapter-a-3-2-describe-the-key-elements-of-whmis))

workplace label

A safety label added by the employer at the workplace. They are used when a product is transferred to another container or when the original supplier label is missing, and they explain the hazards and safe handling of the product. (Section A-3.3 (#chapter-a-3-3-describe-the-labelling-of-controlled-products))

Sample Safety Data Sheet for Chromium Acetate Hydroxide

Printable PDF: Cr-Ac-OH-MSDS_SigmaAldrich (http://a-safetyfunctions-bcplumbingapprl1.pressbooks.tru.ca/wp-content/uploads/sites/241/2025/01/Cr-Ac-OH-MSDS_SigmaAldrich.pdf)

Material Safety Data Sheet

Version 4.1
Revision Date 10/23/2010
Print Date 02/08/2011

1. PRODUCT AND COMPANY IDENTIFICATION

Product name	: Chromium(III) acetate hydroxide	
Product Number	: 318108	
Brand	: Aldrich	
Product Use	: For laboratory research purposes.	
Supplier	: Sigma-Aldrich Canada, Ltd 2149 Winston Park Drive OAKVILLE ON L6H 6J8 CANADA	Manufacturer : Sigma-Aldrich Corporation 3050 Spruce St. St. Louis, Missouri 63103 USA
Telephone	: +19058299500	
Fax	: +19058299292	
Emergency Phone # (For both supplier and manufacturer)	: 1-800-424-9300	
Preparation Information	: Sigma-Aldrich Corporation Product Safety - Americas Region 1-800-521-8956	

2. HAZARDS IDENTIFICATION

Emergency Overview

WHMIS Classification

Not WHMIS controlled.

Not WHMIS controlled.

GHS Classification

Acute toxicity, Inhalation (Category 4)
Acute toxicity, Dermal (Category 4)
Acute toxicity, Oral (Category 4)
Skin irritation (Category 2)
Eye irritation (Category 2A)
Specific target organ toxicity - single exposure (Category 3)

GHS Label elements, including precautionary statements

Pictogram



Signal word

Warning

Hazard statement(s)

H302 + H312	Harmful if swallowed or in contact with skin.
H315	Causes skin irritation.
H319	Causes serious eye irritation.
H332	Harmful if inhaled.
H335	May cause respiratory irritation.

Precautionary statement(s)

P261	Avoid breathing dust/ fume/ gas/ mist/ vapours/ spray.
P264	Wash skin thoroughly after handling.
P270	Do not eat, drink or smoke when using this product.
P271	Use only outdoors or in a well-ventilated area.
P280	Wear protective gloves/ eye protection/ face protection.
P301 + P312	IF SWALLOWED: Call a POISON CENTER or doctor/ physician if you feel unwell.

P302 + P352 IF ON SKIN: Wash with plenty of soap and water.
P304 + P340 IF INHALED: Remove victim to fresh air and keep at rest in a position comfortable for breathing.
P305 + P351 + P338 IF IN EYES: Rinse cautiously with water for several minutes. Remove contact lenses, if present and easy to do. Continue rinsing.
P312 Call a POISON CENTER or doctor/ physician if you feel unwell.
P322 Specific measures (see supplemental first aid instructions on this label).
P330 Rinse mouth.
P332 + P313 If skin irritation occurs: Get medical advice/ attention.
P337 + P313 If eye irritation persists: Get medical advice/ attention.
P362 Take off contaminated clothing and wash before reuse.
P403 + P233 Store in a well-ventilated place. Keep container tightly closed.
P405 Store locked up.
P501 Dispose of contents/ container to an approved waste disposal plant.

HMIS Classification

Health hazard: 0
Flammability: 0
Physical hazards: 0

Potential Health Effects

Inhalation May be harmful if inhaled. May cause respiratory tract irritation.
Skin May be harmful if absorbed through skin. May cause skin irritation.
Eyes May cause eye irritation.
Ingestion May be harmful if swallowed.

3. COMPOSITION/INFORMATION ON INGREDIENTS

Formula : $C_{14}H_{23}Cr_3O_{16}$
Molecular Weight : 603.31 g/mol

CAS-No.	EC-No.	Index-No.	Concentration
Chromium(III) acetate hydroxide			
39430-51-8	254-447-3	-	-

4. FIRST AID MEASURES

General advice

Consult a physician. Show this safety data sheet to the doctor in attendance.

If inhaled

If breathed in, move person into fresh air. If not breathing, give artificial respiration. Consult a physician.

In case of skin contact

Wash off with soap and plenty of water. Consult a physician.

In case of eye contact

Rinse thoroughly with plenty of water for at least 15 minutes and consult a physician.

If swallowed

Never give anything by mouth to an unconscious person. Rinse mouth with water. Consult a physician.

5. FIRE-FIGHTING MEASURES

Conditions of flammability

Not flammable or combustible.

Suitable extinguishing media

Use water spray, alcohol-resistant foam, dry chemical or carbon dioxide.

Special protective equipment for fire-fighters

Wear self contained breathing apparatus for fire fighting if necessary.

Hazardous combustion products

Hazardous decomposition products formed under fire conditions. - Carbon oxides, Chromium oxides

Explosion data - sensitivity to mechanical impact

no data available

Explosion data - sensitivity to static discharge

no data available

6. ACCIDENTAL RELEASE MEASURES**Personal precautions**

Use personal protective equipment. Avoid dust formation. Avoid breathing vapors, mist or gas. Ensure adequate ventilation. Evacuate personnel to safe areas. Avoid breathing dust.

Environmental precautions

Do not let product enter drains.

Methods and materials for containment and cleaning up

Pick up and arrange disposal without creating dust. Sweep up and shovel. Keep in suitable, closed containers for disposal.

7. HANDLING AND STORAGE**Precautions for safe handling**

Avoid contact with skin and eyes. Avoid formation of dust and aerosols.

Provide appropriate exhaust ventilation at places where dust is formed. Normal measures for preventive fire protection.

Conditions for safe storage

Keep container tightly closed in a dry and well-ventilated place.

Keep in a dry place.

8. EXPOSURE CONTROLS/PERSONAL PROTECTION

Contains no substances with occupational exposure limit values.

Personal protective equipment**Respiratory protection**

For nuisance exposures use type P95 (US) or type P1 (EU EN 143) particle respirator. For higher level protection use type OV/AG/P99 (US) or type ABEK-P2 (EU EN 143) respirator cartridges. Use respirators and components tested and approved under appropriate government standards such as NIOSH (US) or CEN (EU).

Hand protection

Handle with gloves. Gloves must be inspected prior to use. Use proper glove removal technique (without touching glove's outer surface) to avoid skin contact with this product. Dispose of contaminated gloves after use in accordance with applicable laws and good laboratory practices. Wash and dry hands.

Eye protection

Safety glasses with side-shields conforming to EN166 Use equipment for eye protection tested and approved under appropriate government standards such as NIOSH (US) or EN 166(EU).

Skin and body protection

Complete suit protecting against chemicals. The type of protective equipment must be selected according to the concentration and amount of the dangerous substance at the specific workplace.

Hygiene measures

Handle in accordance with good industrial hygiene and safety practice. Wash hands before breaks and at the end of workday.

Specific engineering controls

Use mechanical exhaust or laboratory fumehood to avoid exposure.

9. PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL PROPERTIES

Appearance

Form	powder
Colour	green

Safety data

pH	no data available
Melting/freezing point	no data available
Boiling point	no data available
Flash point	no data available
Ignition temperature	no data available
Autoignition temperature	no data available
Lower explosion limit	no data available
Upper explosion limit	no data available
Vapour pressure	no data available
Density	no data available
Water solubility	no data available
Partition coefficient: n-octanol/water	no data available
Relative vapour density	no data available
Odour	no data available
Odour Threshold	no data available
Evaporation rate	no data available

10. STABILITY AND REACTIVITY

Chemical stability

Stable under recommended storage conditions.

Possibility of hazardous reactions

no data available

Conditions to avoid

no data available

Materials to avoid

Strong oxidizing agents

Hazardous decomposition products

Hazardous decomposition products formed under fire conditions. - Carbon oxides, Chromium oxides

11. TOXICOLOGICAL INFORMATION

Acute toxicity

Oral LD50

no data available

Inhalation LC50

Dermal LD50

Other information on acute toxicity

no data available

Skin corrosion/irritation

no data available

Serious eye damage/eye irritation

no data available

Respiratory or skin sensitization

no data available

Germ cell mutagenicity

no data available

Carcinogenicity

IARC: No component of this product present at levels greater than or equal to 0.1% is identified as probable, possible or confirmed human carcinogen by IARC.

ACGIH: No component of this product present at levels greater than or equal to 0.1% is identified as a carcinogen or potential carcinogen by ACGIH.

Reproductive toxicity

no data available

Teratogenicity

no data available

Specific target organ toxicity - single exposure (Globally Harmonized System)

Inhalation - May cause respiratory irritation.

Specific target organ toxicity - repeated exposure (Globally Harmonized System)

no data available

Aspiration hazard

no data available

Potential health effects

Inhalation	May be harmful if inhaled. May cause respiratory tract irritation.
Ingestion	May be harmful if swallowed.
Skin	May be harmful if absorbed through skin. May cause skin irritation.
Eyes	May cause eye irritation.

Signs and Symptoms of Exposure

To the best of our knowledge, the chemical, physical, and toxicological properties have not been thoroughly investigated.

Synergistic effects

no data available

Additional Information

RTECS: Not available

12. ECOLOGICAL INFORMATION**Toxicity**

no data available

Persistence and degradability

no data available

Bioaccumulative potential

no data available

Mobility in soil

no data available

PBT and vPvB assessment

no data available

Other adverse effects

no data available

13. DISPOSAL CONSIDERATIONS

Product

Offer surplus and non-recyclable solutions to a licensed disposal company.

Contaminated packaging

Dispose of as unused product.

14. TRANSPORT INFORMATION

DOT (US)

Not dangerous goods

IMDG

Not dangerous goods

IATA

Not dangerous goods

15. REGULATORY INFORMATION

DSL Status

This product contains the following components listed on the Canadian NDSL list. All other components are on the Canadian DSL list.

Chromium(III) acetate hydroxide

CAS-No.
39430-51-8

WHMIS Classification

Not WHMIS controlled.

Not WHMIS controlled.

This product has been classified in accordance with the hazard criteria of the Controlled Products Regulations and the MSDS contains all the information required by the Controlled Products Regulations.

16. OTHER INFORMATION

Further information

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The above information is believed to be correct but does not purport to be all inclusive and shall be used only as a guide. The information in this document is based on the present state of our knowledge and is applicable to the product with regard to appropriate safety precautions. It does not represent any guarantee of the properties of the product. Sigma-Aldrich Co., shall not be held liable for any damage resulting from handling or from contact with the above product. See reverse side of invoice or packing slip for additional terms and conditions of sale.

Referred to in A-3.4 Describe Information to be Disclosed on a Safety Data Sheet (SDS)

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Version History

This page provides a record of changes made to this learning resource, Plumbing Apprenticeship Level 1, Block A (<https://a-safetyfunctions-bcplumbingappr1.pressbooks.tru.ca/>). Each update increases the version number by 0.1. The most recent version is reflected in the exported files for this resource.

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If you identify an error in this resource, please report it using the TRU Open Education Resource Error Form.

Version	Date	Change	Details
1.0	May, 2026	Plumbing Apprenticeship Level 1 Block A learning resource from STBC content converted to open and freely accessible digital platform and published at TRU.	

Plumbing Apprenticeship & Trade Resources in BC

A successful career in plumbing requires a strong foundation of skills, knowledge, and workplace safety awareness. Below are key resources to support plumbing apprentices in BC, including educational pathways, trade certifications, workplace safety guidelines, and mental health and wellness support.

Plumbing Apprenticeship & Certification Resources

- **SkilledTradesBC – Plumbing Apprenticeship** (<https://skilledtradesbc.ca/plumber>) – Overview of plumbing training, certification requirements, and apprenticeship pathways in British Columbia.
- **Red Seal Program – Plumber** (<https://www.red-seal.ca/eng/trades/plumbers/overview.shtml>) – National certification program with exam prep guides and trade mobility information.
- **BC Building Codes & Standards** (<https://www.bccodes.ca/>) – Official building and plumbing codes for British Columbia.

Workplace Safety & Regulations

- **WorkSafeBC** (<https://www.worksafebc.com/en>) – Essential safety resources for plumbers, including:
 - Health & Safety – WorkSafeBC (<https://www.worksafebc.com/en/health-safety>)
 - Report Unsafe Working Conditions (<https://www.worksafebc.com/en/contact-us/departments-and-services/health-safety-prevention>)
 - Report a Workplace Injury or Disease (<https://www.worksafebc.com/en/claims/report-workplace-injury-illness>)
 - Submit a Notice of Project Form (<https://www.worksafebc.com/en/for-employers/just-for-you/submit-notice-project>)
 - Get Health and Safety Resources (Videos, Posters, Publications, and More) (<https://www.worksafebc.com/en/resources-health-safety>)
 - Search the OHS Regulations (and Related Materials) (<https://www.worksafebc.com/en/law-policy/occupational-health-safety/searchable-ohs-regulation>)
 - Conduct an Incident Investigation (<https://www.worksafebc.com/en/health-safety/create-manage/incident-investigations/conducting-employer-investigation>)
- **CCOHS: OHS Answers Fact Sheets – Plumber** (https://www.ccohs.ca/oshanswers/occup_workplace/plumber.html) – Safety guidelines and best practices for plumbers in various work environments.

Financial Supports

- **Financial Support (SkilledTradesBC)** (<https://skilledtradesbc.ca/financial-support>) – Information about grants, tax credits, Canada apprentice loans, employment insurance, and the Indigenous Skills and Employment Training

(ISET) program.

- **StudentAidBC** (<https://studentaidbc.ca/>) – Complete post-secondary education through student loans, grants, and scholarships. There is also programs that help with loan repayment.
- **WorkBC (Government of BC)** (<https://www.workbc.ca/find-loans-and-grants/students-and-adult-learners/services-apprentices-and-employers>) – Services for apprentices and employers.

Mental Health & Wellness Support

- **HealthLink BC – Mental Health and Substance Use** (<https://www.healthlinkbc.ca/mental-health-and-substance-use>) – HealthLink BC resources for mental health and wellness support.
- **Here2Talk** (<https://here2talk.ca/>) – Free and confidential counseling services available to all post-secondary students registered at a BC school.
- **Help Starts Here** (<https://helpstartshere.gov.bc.ca/>) – A database with over 2,500 listings of services related to mental health and substance use supports.
- **Hope for Wellness Helpline** (<https://www.hopeforwellness.ca/>) – 24/7 online chat and phone line with experienced and culturally competent counselors available to all Indigenous people in Canada.
 - First Nations Health Authority Mental Health Supports Info Sheet [PDF] (<https://www.fnha.ca/Documents/FNHA-mental-health-and-wellness-supports-for-indigenous-people.pdf>) by First Nations health Authority – List of culturally safe services for Indigenous people.
- **HeretoHelp – BC** (<https://www.heretohelp.bc.ca/>) – Mental health resources, including videos, articles, and support services in BC.
- **BC Construction Industry Rehabilitation Plan** (<https://www.constructionrehabplan.com/>) – Mental health and substance use services for CLRA and BCBT members and their families.
- **Virtual Mental Health Supports (Government of BC)** (<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/health/managing-your-health/mental-health-substance-use/virtual-mental-health-supports>) – Virtual services are available for British Columbians who are experiencing anxiety, depression, or other mental health challenges.

Crisis Support

- **Interior Crisis Line Network** – Call 1-888-353-2273 (tel:+1-888-353-2273) for 24/7 emotional support, crisis intervention, and community resource information.
- **Talk Suicide Chat Service** (<https://talksuicide.ca/>) – An alternative if calling is difficult; available for crisis intervention.
- **310Mental Health Support** – Call 250-310-6789 (tel:+1-250-310-6789) for emotional support, information, and resources specific to mental health.
- **1-800-SUICIDE** – Call 1-800-784-2433 (tel:+1-800-784-2433) if you are experiencing feelings of distress or despair, including thoughts of suicide.
- **Opioid Treatment Access Line** – Call 1-833-804-8111 (tel:+1-833-804-8111) between 9 am and 4 pm to connect with a doctor, nurse, or healthcare worker who can prescribe opioid treatment medication that same day.
- **KUU-US Crisis Response Service** – Call 1-800-588-8717 (tel:+1-800-588-8717) for culturally-aware crisis support for Indigenous peoples in BC.
- **Alcohol and Drug Information and Referral Service** – Call 1-800-663-1441 (tel:+1-800-663-1441) to find resources and support.



Emergency Services — For life-threatening situations, call 911 or visit your nearest emergency department.