Incorrectly labelled or unlabelled containers

If you find a container that does not have a label or is incorrectly labelled, action must be taken to correctly label the container. Containers that have had chemicals transferred into them (decanted) in the workplace, and containers of chemical wastes need to be labelled correctly.

If the contents of the container are not known, this should be clearly marked on the container, for example, 'Caution - do not use: unknown substance'. Such a container should be stored in isolation until its contents can be identified and, if it is then found to be hazardous, the container is appropriately labelled. If the contents cannot be identified, they should be disposed of in accordance with relevant local waste management requirements.

Other sources of information 2.4

Additional information regarding hazards and risks associated with the use, handling, generation and storage of hazardous chemicals can be obtained from the following sources:

- incident records
- previous risk assessments
- Australian Code for the Transport of Dangerous Goods by Road and Rail
- European Chemical Substances Information System (ESIS)
- The Standard for the Uniform Scheduling of Medicines and Poisons (SUSMP)
- National Industrial Chemical Notification and Assessment Scheme (NICNAS)
- regulatory authorities
- trade unions and employer associations
- work health and safety consultants
- internet searches of authoritative websites, such as those of international work health and safety agencies like the US Occupational Safety and Health Administration, or the European Commission Joint Research Centre's Institute for Health and Consumer Protection.