Deerfield Episcopal Retirement Community provides care to a population of over 550 seniors. To foster the health and wellbeing of residents, Deerfield maintains facilities that include a healthcare center, an assisted living center, a community center, an aquatic center, and food service facilities. The wellness and safety of residents is a top priority at Deerfield, and that ethos extends to its management of hazardous chemicals.

For Mitch Davis — supervisor of housekeeping at Deerfield — ensuring that his staff, residents, and community members are safe from chemical hazards means keeping a library of over 450 SDSs up-to-date. Until recently, this required a burdensome amount of paperwork.

“Prior to going with VelocityEHS, we used the traditional method of having books of SDSs onsite,” says Mr. Davis. “It was very frustrating. At any given point, keeping our binders updated at all our different locations was a challenge.”

In early 2012, Mr. Davis began researching solutions that could help him more efficiently handle Deerfield’s hazardous chemical management responsibilities.

“We found VelocityEHS Chemical Management through the internet,” explains Mr. Davis. “Then we talked to other people who already used it, and they all said it was the best service in the marketplace. It also matched up with other initiatives we had. Our infection control nurse had been putting together a website and was pushing for digitizing things. This was a good step in that direction.”

VelocityEHS Chemical Management gives mid- to large-size businesses like Deerfield the ability to track and manage chemicals throughout the workplace — in multiple locations and facilities — while providing employees with mandated right-to-know access via the industry’s largest library of regularly updated, GHS-aligned safety data sheets.

Mr. Davis found that VelocityEHS Chemical Management fit well with Deerfield’s “safety first” culture, and it has now become a powerful asset for his entire compliance team.

“For the overall safety of staff and residents, we definitely see a benefit to being as current as possible with our safety data sheets,” said Mr. Davis. “VelocityEHS Chemical Management allows us to do this. We don’t have to worry about it. The fact that we can instantly add a product is great. In the past, updating all our books took quite a bit of time. It wasn’t practical. This is much better.”

Mr. Davis also said that employees have been pleased with VelocityEHS Chemical Management functionality and ease of use.
“Our employees are impressed with how it works,” explains Mr. Davis. “Some of our people don’t have a big comfort level with computers, but we’ve still been able to train them to find everything they need. Right now, [VelocityEHS Chemical Management] is accessible on everybody’s office computer, and also on four interactive touchscreen kiosks.”

Mr. Davis added: “The cross-referencing function, especially, is very good.”

If you’re ready to learn more about a suite of cost-effective solutions for tracking and managing chemicals for your workplace, visit www.EHS.com.

RETIREMENT COMMUNITIES
FIND A PROVEN SOLUTION
WITH VELOCITYEHS CHEMICAL MANAGEMENT

Managing hazardous chemicals is a critical responsibility for businesses that provide care and medical services to our nation’s seniors. It’s a task made difficult by the sheer variety of chemicals employed by these facilities, OSHA’s HazCom Standard, and local and state requirements. Accrediting agencies exert additional pressure on retirement and assisted living communities to meet stringent standards and best practices.

Managing these challenges takes a partner who understands the unique chemical management needs involved in ensuring residents, employees, and visitors stay safe and informed about onsite chemical hazards. At VelocityEHS, our solutions are trusted by care facilities across North America. We provide access to the industry’s largest library of regularly-updated safety data sheets, and our solutions allow for quick access to required right-to-know information.

Find out what makes us the compliance solutions provider that more businesses trust to handle their chemical manufacturing compliance needs!

Deerfield has incorporated VelocityEHS Chemical Management functionality into a series of onsite kiosks.