

Wickenburg Community Hospital Modernizes HazCom Compliance



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Linda Brockwell,
Chief Nursing Officer
Wickenburg Community Hospital

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- Critical access hospital serving Central Arizona since 1926
- Approximately 200 employees and 19 beds
- Using VelocityEHS Chemical Management since 2011

Located 45 miles northwest of Phoenix, Wickenburg Community Hospital is a 19-bed critical access hospital with approximately 200 employees that has been serving the medical needs of the Central Arizona community since 1926. For most of its history, Wickenburg had been managing its safety data sheets with traditional paper binders. However in 2011, it began looking for a digital solution to help modernize its HazCom compliance management.

Linda Brockwell has been with the hospital for over six years, the last four and a half as chief nursing officer.

"We knew we needed a better solution for managing our safety data sheets," explains Ms. Brockwell. "We had volumes of SDS's that required upkeep. We were constantly updating our binders. It was a lot of paper. And when you went looking for a chemical or a

drug, finding it quickly could be a real challenge."

Ms. Brockwell, who also handles the hospital's emergency preparedness, saw a digital solution as something that could bring multiple benefits to the hospital.

"I started looking at alternatives to this old way of doing things," says Ms. Brockwell. "At that time I was chair of the Environment of Care Committee, and we were all for finding ways to go paperless. We had received advertising queries about VelocityEHS before, and it made a lot of sense to go in that direction. We looked at what you could offer us, and decided it aligned with where we wanted to be."

Because HazCom touches every part of her organization, the challenge for Ms. Brockwell was getting 'buy-in' across departments.

"No single department had money in their budget for an SDS management upgrade," explains Ms. Brockwell. "At the same time, virtually every department uses it — from the lab to nursing to facilities to the emergency department. I explained to my colleagues what VelocityEHS Chemical Management could do for our organization, and we were able to go to administration together and say 'We need this!'"

With VelocityEHS Chemical Management, Wickenburg is now able to provide all employees with instant right-to-know access to safety data sheets on a seamless cloud-based platform. VelocityEHS Chemical Management also helps Wickenburg label, track, and report on its hazardous chemicals across locations, and to stay on top of ever-changing government regulations and compliance requirements.

"It's really been a godsend," explains Ms. Brockwell. "Now everything can



be done electronically. Our SDSs are regularly updated. No one has to get out the binders and manually go looking for the ‘latest and greatest’ SDS. It’s a real timesaver.”

In addition to saving time, Wickenburg finds that VelocityEHS functionality brings an ease-of-use that makes employees more eager to proactively engage in HazCom compliance.

“It’s just so user friendly and simple to use; everyone loves it,” concludes Ms. Brockwell. “Our physicians in the ED find it’s especially useful in the course of their work. We can assign products to different departments, and everybody can know where things are. It’s keeping us current and timely. Everyone sees the value. I highly recommend the product and the company!”

JOINT COMMISSION HAZCOM HELP FOR HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS

Managing hazardous chemicals is a critical responsibility for healthcare providers. This task can be made difficult by the sheer variety of chemicals employed by hospitals, hospital systems, and physician offices. Nonetheless, the need to safeguard employees, volunteers, and patients who are exposed to the chemicals as part of their routine activities is absolutely vital. Moreover, compliance with OSHA’s HazCom Standard, the Joint Commission (JCAHO), and additional accrediting firms exert additional pressure on healthcare providers to adhere to stringent industry standards and best practices. Meeting these challenges takes a partner who understands chemical management in the healthcare industry.

From small stand-alone hospitals to multi-state health systems, the safety solutions from VelocityEHS are trusted by healthcare providers across the country. Our regularly updated library of millions of safety data sheets — the largest and most comprehensive in the industry — makes it easy to provide required HazCom information. From looking up common chemicals likely to be found in healthcare environments, to managing and tracking chemicals across multiple storage locations, our proven solutions help healthcare institutions of all types reduce risk, improve efficiencies, and move toward compliance.



Benefits of VelocityEHS Chemical Management

Millions of MSDSs at Your Fingertips

24/7 access to the industry’s leading database of safety data sheets ensures your company’s library is up-to-date and in compliance.

Simplify Compliance

Easy-to-use tools help you meet hazard communication requirements (OSHA / WHMIS / GHS), including hazard determination, right-to-know access, labeling, safe chemical handling, PPE, and more.

Improve Chemical Management

Robust chemical management tools provide greater container-level control over the location, status and risk associated with the chemicals you use. Our free mobile SDS/Chemical Management app lets you scan barcode/QR code labels for in-the-field container management.

Mobile Access

Our online accounts are mobile optimized, and our free SDS/Chemical Management app makes it possible to access SDSs and chemical inventory information offline, when internet connectivity is limited. With these mobile capabilities, critical chemical safety information is always at your fingertips.

Regulatory Compliant

Multiple back-up options mean your system meets OSHA, WHMIS and other regulatory requirements for electronic safety data sheet /chemical management.

Quick ROI & Low Cost of Ownership

VelocityEHS Chemical Management pays for itself by eliminating time-consuming, manual administrative tasks. Plus, there’s no software to install or maintain, and you get immediate access to new features.

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