Using GoldFFX to find safety data sheets

Before using or purchasing a chemical, it is important to consult its safety data sheet (SDS). GoldFFX has a database of ‘Gold’ SDSs in a consistent format that align with NZ regulations, as well as vendor-provided SDSs.

**Access GoldFFX**

Navigate to the databases section of the University library website, and search or browse for **GoldFFX**. Alternatively, here is the link:

http://www.library.auckland.ac.nz/databases/record/?record=chemweb

This is what you should see once it opens:

![GoldFFX interface](image)

**Search for a Gold SDS**

First, ensure the default settings are selected as highlighted in the screenshot below.

![Default settings highlighted](image)

1. Type in a chemical name or CAS number to search for. You can either wait for suggested results to appear and select one, or just press the Enter key.

2. If the system finds an exact match, it will open the SDS automatically. If not, click on the name of the correct search result to open the SDS.

3. If no results are found, try an advanced search (see section below).
Navigate and interpret the Gold SDS

Hover the mouse cursor over the gear to open a quick-access menu. On the top menu you can choose to download or print the SDS too.

Hazard identification

There are a number of classifications and cues that provide information on the degree of hazard.

The Chemwatch hazard alert code and colour

Chemicals are rated 0-4, with 4 being the most hazardous.

Section 2 Hazards identification

This includes a bar graph indicator of the types and severity of hazards, hazard pictograms, and more detailed risk statements and HSNO criteria.
Section 14 Transport Information

The UN transport class is important to note when purchasing or disposing of chemicals. Note that Packing Group 1 is the most hazardous, and for transport purposes only the most hazardous class is identified.

Advanced searching for uncommon chemicals

You can try searching for vendor-provided SDSs. Note that these will be presented in a variety of formats, and some will be clearer than others.

1. Click on the Advanced tab.
2. Select whether you are searching for a name or CAS number.
3. Remove the New Zealand filter.
4. Click the Vendor SDS button.
5. Then enter the search criteria and click the magnifying glass or press Enter.

If there is a result, click the correct name:

Then click the chemical name for the SDS you want to review.
Other report types

**Emergency report**
Click the central circle to view options for emergency reports. This is particularly useful for quick advice regarding spills, first aid, and providing information to emergency services.

**Mini SDS**
Select Mini SDS to see a summary SDS for quick reference

Example mini SDS: