

# COPE PLASTICS STAYS ON THE LEADING EDGE WITH MSDSONLINE



*“With MSDSonline, we are the resource.”*

Mike Ferguson,  
Corporate Trainer  
Cope Plastics

## About Cope Plastics

- Located in Alton, Illinois
- A distributor and fabricator of plastic products
- Must maintain safety data sheets for the products it creates

**S**ince 1946, Cope Plastics in Alton, Illinois has been a leading distributor and fabricator of plastic sheets, rods, and tubes. It works with plastics, graphics materials, acrylics, polycarbonates, and similar products. Being both a distributor and fabricator means that Cope Plastics must maintain SDSs for the materials it receives from chemical manufacturers, and also for the products it creates. Until recently, this constituted a massive, time-consuming responsibility.

Mike Ferguson, corporate trainer, has worked at Cope Plastics since 1976. When he took over compliance responsibilities a few years ago, he knew that a cloud-based solution could make it easier to satisfy the SDS requirements coming from both directions.

“We used to have a full-time employee who just handled MSDSs,” explains Mr. Ferguson. “Our paper filing system was very hard to use. We needed a way to pull updated MSDS quickly.”

According to Mr. Ferguson, a key point for getting buy-in for MSDSonline was addressing the frustrations that distributors often face.

“Honestly, there was some discussion at the beginning about whether or not we needed MSDSonline — because the MSDSs for the chemicals we handle are supposed to be provided by the chemical creators,” Mr. Ferguson explains. “However, I was able to make clear that we *do* need it.”

Cope Plastics ultimately found its solution with the *VelocityEHS*, cloud-based MSDSonline HQ Account, which provides access to the industry’s largest library of safety data sheets. Regularly updated with new GHS-formatted MSDSs, the MSDSonline library allows users to centralize their compliance tasks while providing employees with speedy access to mandated right-to-know information.

According to Mr. Ferguson, Cope Plastics noted time-saving improvements right away.

“We can quickly check anything against the MSDSonline database and make sure it’s correct,” he says. “We can be proactive.”

Mr. Ferguson notes that Cope Plastics has also seen an improvement in performance when customers call to request safety data sheets.

“When a customer calls and wants an SDS, we can get it very quickly using MSDSonline,” says Mr. Ferguson. “Now we can have it for them in just a few moments. It makes a big difference.”

With MSDSonline, Cope Plastics has been able to go from chasing down missing or outdated MSDSs to seamlessly and quickly accessing updated SDSs whenever the need arises.



As Mr. Ferguson sums it up: “Now, with MSDSonline, we *are* the resource.”

For more information about VelocityEHS chemical management solutions, visit [MSDSonline.com](http://MSDSonline.com).

## MANUFACTURERS FIND A PROVEN SOLUTION WITH MSDSONLINE

Manufacturers are responsible for identifying the hazards of each product they create and communicating that information to importers, distributors, and customers — in addition to their own employees.

They also face ever-mounting challenges when it comes to complying with evolving safety and environmental regulations. Companies that manufacture in the United States, Canada and elsewhere now face impending changes related to the global alignment with GHS.

That’s a lot to deal with!

At VelocityEHS, we specialize in the creation, organization, and deployment of solutions for manufacturing organizations of all sizes and industries. Our regularly updated MSDSonline library of millions of safety data sheets is the largest and most comprehensive in the market. Find out what makes us the solutions provider that more businesses trust to handle their compliance and safety needs!



## Benefits of the HQ Account

### 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 Chemical Inventory Scanner 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 eBinder mobile 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

The HQ Account 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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