

the context of each artist's practice and the available supporting material and written evidence."

Additionally, Maney is switching to an internal hosting system by the end of the year that will provide consistent connectivity and access to our members. More information can be found at [http://maneypublishing.com/index.php/maney\\_online\\_faqs](http://maneypublishing.com/index.php/maney_online_faqs).

—Bonnie Naugle, [bnaugle \[at\] conservation-us.org](mailto:bnaugle[at]conservation-us.org), and Michele Derrick, JAIC Editor-in-Chief, [mderrick \[at\] mfa.org](mailto:mderrick[at]mfa.org)

## Allied Organizations

### American Alliance for Museums (AAM)

#### MEDIA & TECHNOLOGY MUSE AWARDS

The Muse Awards recognize outstanding achievement in museum media. Presented to institutions or independent producers using digital media to enhance the museum experience and engage new audiences, the Muse Awards celebrate scholarship, innovation, creativity, and inclusiveness. Projects must be produced by or for a museum. Winning projects for each category are chosen by an international group of museum media professionals and the awards are presented at the AAM Annual Meeting each year. Deadline for submissions is April 1, 2014.

#### AAM OFFERS RECORDED WEBINARS RELATED TO COLLECTIONS CARE

Recorded webinars related to several collections care issues are available to AAM members at <http://aam-us.org/resources/online-learning/collections-stewardship-webinars>. Alliance webinars are originally presented live, then recorded and archived for later access. The webinars include the following topics:

- [Collections and Storage Handling on a Shoestring](#)
- [Collections Conundrums](#)
- [The Basics of Developing a Collections Management Policy](#)
- [Handling Non-Traditional Objects](#)
- [Step-by-Step Collections Acquisition](#)
- [Display and Care of Western Two-Dimensional Objects and East Asian Scrolls and Screens](#)
- [Preparing for Disaster](#)
- [Disaster Preparedness: Water and Works on Paper](#)

### Heritage Preservation

#### UPCOMING WEBINARS: CONNECTING TO COLLECTIONS ONLINE COMMUNITY

In November and December, the Connecting to Collections Online Community will host two free, hour-long webinars. These are unlike the online courses in that there is no homework and no need to register ahead of time. Simply click on the "Access Meeting Room" button on [www.connectingtocollections.org](http://www.connectingtocollections.org) at the time of the webinar to participate. See the remaining 2013 schedule below:

- *Promoting Preservation: Utilizing New Media*, Tuesday, November 19, 1 p.m. (EST)
- *Care of Ceramics & Glass*, Tuesday, December 10, 2 p.m. (EST)

## Health & Safety Committee

### Be Aware: Chemical Classification Changes on Safety Data Sheets During the Move to the Globally Harmonized System (GHS)

The September 2013 issue of *ACTS Facts* summarized a study<sup>1</sup> by Diane Radnoff in which the flash points of 83 products sold in Canada were measured, which is excerpted after this article. Significant variations were found between many of the measured values and their reported values on respective Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS). Wondering if the survey results were more limited to Canadian products or more universal, the AIC Health and Safety Committee (H&S) reviewed the current state of U.S. and Canadian classification parameters.

Radnoff noted the Canadian regulations governing hazard communication do not list specific test parameters as the basis for flash points or classifying "flammable liquids." She also suggested that, based on these test results, chemicals with actual flash points lower than the number disclosed on their MSDSs may be erroneously classified, causing workers to underestimate the flammability hazards of the products they use. The study article strongly recommends that employers err on the side of caution when working with potentially flammable chemicals.

In 2012, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) issued a revised Hazard Communication Standard (29CFR1910.1200), which brings it into alignment with the guidelines of the internationally recognized United Nations Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labeling of Chemicals (GHS), Revision 3. The OSHA Standard appendices, for example Appendix B.6 "Flammable Liquids," contain very specific GHS-based guidelines and classification parameters for both health and physical hazards of produced and imported chemicals. By June 1, 2015, the final U.S. implementation deadline, the discrepancies between actual and reported classification values (such as flash point) should be greatly reduced as the new "Safety Data Sheet" (SDS) reporting aligns with GHS. The Canadian Workplace Hazardous Material Information System (WHMIS) is similarly undergoing review and alignment with GHS, but had not been updated at the time of the Radnoff study. In addition, a joint action plan exists in the Canada-U.S. Regulatory Cooperation Council to align and synchronize implementation of each nation's updated Hazard Communication laws: [www.hc-sc.gc.ca/ewh-semt/occup-travail/whmis-simdut/ghs-sgh/implementation/index-eng.php](http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/ewh-semt/occup-travail/whmis-simdut/ghs-sgh/implementation/index-eng.php). Health Canada's webpage states that it is "working towards aligning the GHS implementation as much as possible with the final implementation dates in the United States" [June 1, 2015] and that it is also "working to keep variances between the two countries to a minimum." [www.hc-sc.gc.ca/ewh-semt/occup-travail/whmis-simdut/ghs-sgh/implementation/index-eng.php](http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/ewh-semt/occup-travail/whmis-simdut/ghs-sgh/implementation/index-eng.php). Ideally, the reported discrepancies in flash point value reporting will be minimized as well.

The H&S Committee brings this issue to your attention as an urgent reminder to be aware of forthcoming changes to

1. Radnoff, D. 2013. Accuracy of reported flash point values on Material Safety Data Sheets and the impact on product classification. *Journal of Occupational and Environmental Hygiene*, 10: 50-546.

Hazard Communication Programs, particularly with respect to updated and expanded chemical classifications, new SDSs, more detailed container labeling (including the use of pictograms), and improved training. All users of chemicals in a workplace (including employees, volunteers, interns, visiting scientists, and contractors if they will be using or working around your chemicals) must be trained on the new Hazard Communication standard changes by December 1, 2013.

**Repeat!** If you or anyone on your watch uses chemicals/MSDS sheets in your workshop, museum collections unit, or conservation laboratory, they should receive training from their supervisors! **If you are in private practice, it is even more urgent that you familiarize yourself with the OSHA Hazard Communication changes and the wealth of detailed information that will be on new SDSs and container labeling.**

You and your employer can find a host of valuable training tools and fact sheets that easily explain each change on OSHA's website: <https://www.osha.gov/dsg/hazcom/index.html>.

—Kathryn Makos, Chair, AIC Health and Safety Committee,  
[kamakos\[at\]verizon.net](mailto:kamakos[at]verizon.net)

Have a question about health and safety in your conservation work? Send it to us at [HealthandSafety\[at\]conservation-us.org](mailto:HealthandSafety[at]conservation-us.org).

### Inaccurate Flash Point Values On MSDSs

In an article published by the *Journal of Occupational & Environmental Hygiene*, Diane Radnoff describes her study of 83 products sold in Canada for various industrial purposes. She measured each product's flash point using a standard method. The results of the study indicate there were significant variations between the disclosed and her measured flash points. More than a third of the products had flash points lower than the one disclosed on the MSDS. In some cases, the values were more than 20° lower than the disclosed values. This could cause workers to underestimate the flammability hazard of the products they use.

### PRODUCT TYPES

2 Adhesives, 19 Solvents, 15 Cleaners/surfactants, 7 Fracking fluids & related chemicals, 4 Fiberglass/plastic related chemicals, 7 Corrosion/scale inhibitors, 4 Lubricants/hydraulic fluids, 13 Coatings, 7 Fuel additives, 2 Insecticides, and 3 Other.

It is clear from the categories of products tested that some are materials that are also used by art and theater workers, students, and teachers. Two such products highlighted in the study as worst-case examples were common art and scenic art materials. These were:

- A water-based latex primer and finisher had a measured flash point of 84.5°C and should have been classified as a combustible liquid. [The MSDS said "none" under flash point.]
- An epoxy laminating resin had a measured flash point of 39.5°C while the disclosed [MSDS] flashpoint was <150°C.

### RATING SYSTEMS

The article also goes into detail about the new Globally Harmonized System of flammability ratings to show how seriously confusing these errors in flashpoint will be. In some cases

they will cause the products to be listed in the wrong categories on labels and Safety Data Sheets, leading to further misunderstanding in users of the products.

SOURCE: <http://oeh.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/15459624.2013.818233>

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## New Publications

*L'invention du vieux Paris: naissance d'une conscience patrimoniale dans la capital.* Fiori, Ruth. Wavre: Mardaga, 2012. ISBN: 9782804700997. The author examines changing Parisian attitudes towards the old (pre-Haussmann) city in the late 19th century, and the birth of a new awareness dedicated to recognizing and preserving the city's urban and architectural heritage.

*Old books, new technologies: the representation, conservation and transformation of books since 1700.* McKitterick, David. Cambridge; New York: Cambridge University Press, 2013. ISBN: 9781107035935. This volume examines attitudes towards old books from the 18th century to the present day and the history of practices used to conserve them. The author also addresses wider questions surrounding the value of printed books, both in terms of their content and their status as historical objects, and their significance in the digital world.

*New insights into the cleaning of paintings: proceedings from the Cleaning 2010 International Conference, Universidad Politécnica de Valencia and Museum Conservation Institute.* Mecklenburg, Marion F., A. Elena Charola, and Robert J. Koestler, eds. Washington, D.C.: Smithsonian Institution Scholarly Press, 2013. The 2010 conference was the first major international conference on the cleaning of paintings held in over two decades. The 20 papers and 19 extended abstracts published here are grouped into four main categories: ethics, aesthetics, training, and documentation; traditional media: egg tempera and oil; modern paints; and cleaning systems. The volume is the third in the Smithsonian contributions to museum conservation series (ISSN: 1949-2359).

*Twentieth-century color photographs: identification and care.* Pénichon, Sylvie. Los Angeles: The Getty Conservation Institute, 2013. ISBN: 9781606061565. This volume investigates the principal processes used in color photography in the 20th century, methods of identifying them, and common kinds of deterioration. It also provides guidelines for storage and preservation.

*Visual Arts and the law: A handbook for professionals.* Prowda, Judith B. London: Lund Humphries Pub Ltd., 2013. ISBN: 978-1-84822-086-7. The topics addressed include freedom of expression and controversial art, rights of privacy and publicity, copyright, moral rights, artist resale rights, the artist-dealer relationship, commissions, auctions, expert opinions (appraisal and authentication), and title problems and stolen art.

*Installation art and the museum: presentation and conservation of changing artworks.* Saaze, Vivian van. Amsterdam: Amsterdam University Press, 2013. ISBN: 9789089644596. The author looks at contemporary installation art within the museum context. By