

SS 603:2021
(ICS 13.030.01)

SINGAPORE STANDARD

**Code of practice for hazardous waste
management**

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Published by Enterprise Singapore

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ISBN 978-981-5042-32-0

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Foreword

This Singapore Standard was prepared by the Working Group on Review of SS 603 appointed by the Technical Committee on Chemical and Processes under the direction of the Chemical Standards Committee.

This is a revision of SS 603:2014. The key changes are as follows:

- Rationalising the terms “hazardous waste” and “toxic industrial waste” to remove any potential confusion between their meaning and scope;
- Providing better clarity on the hierarchy of waste management methods and principles;
- Elaborating on the elements of an audit protocol for a hazardous waste generator, carrier or collector;
- Specifying content requirements for waste container labels;
- Specifying minimum information pertaining to waste to be declared by the waste generator to the waste collector;
- Providing more industry-specific examples of potential situations that need to be addressed in risk assessments for waste management, as well as the inclusion of safe work procedures as part of risk assessment.

Safe management of hazardous waste is an integral component of a total environmental, health and safety management programme. Mismanagement of hazardous waste can result in significant adverse impacts to safety, health or the environment including the following:

- Land, air and water pollution;
- Fires and/or explosions;
- Poisoning of humans.

In Singapore, a comprehensive, regulated programme has been in place since 1987 to control the generation, collection, transportation, storage, treatment and disposal of hazardous waste. Over the years, industries have recognised proper management and handling of hazardous waste as an integral part of their manufacturing processes and plant operations.

It is presupposed that in the course of their work, users will comply with all relevant regulatory and statutory requirements. Some examples of relevant regulations and acts are listed in the Bibliography. The Singapore Standards Council and Enterprise Singapore shall not be responsible for identifying all such legal obligations.

In preparing this standard, reference was made to the following publications:

- Code of practice on packaging, labelling and storage of chemical wastes (Hong Kong - 2017)
- Code of practice on workplace safety and health (WSH) risk management (WSHC - 2015)
- NFPA 400-2019 Hazardous Materials Code
- SS 586 series Specification for hazard communication for hazardous chemicals and dangerous goods

- SS 593:2013 Code of practice for pollution control
- The Basel Convention on the “Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal”, adopted by the Conference of the Plenipotentiaries on 22 March 1989 and entered into force on 5 May 1992

Annex A of this standard is Annex III of the above-mentioned Basel Convention and is reproduced with the permission from the Secretariat of the Basel Convention on the “Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal”.

Acknowledgement is made for the use of information from the above publications.

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this Singapore Standard may be the subject of patent rights. Enterprise Singapore shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

NOTE

1. *Singapore Standards (SSs) and Technical References (TRs) are reviewed periodically to keep abreast of technical changes, technological developments and industry practices. The changes are documented through the issue of either amendments or revisions. Where SSs are deemed to be stable, i.e. no foreseeable changes in them, they will be classified as “mature standards”. Mature standards will not be subject to further review unless there are requests to review such standards.*
2. *An SS or TR is voluntary in nature except when it is made mandatory by a regulatory authority. It can also be cited in contracts making its application a business necessity. Users are advised to assess and determine whether the SS or TR is suitable for their intended use or purpose. If required, they should refer to the relevant professionals or experts for advice on the use of the document. Enterprise Singapore and the Singapore Standards Council shall not be liable for any damages whether directly or indirectly suffered by anyone or any organisation as a result of the use of any SS or TR. Although care has been taken to draft this standard, users are also advised to ensure that they apply the information after due diligence.*
3. *Compliance with a SS or TR does not exempt users from any legal obligations.*

Code of practice for hazardous waste management

1 Scope

The purpose of this code is to assist persons, organisations and industries involved in the generation, collection, transportation, storage, treatment and disposal of hazardous waste. It is also to set out provision on implementing appropriate, environmentally-sound and safe waste management practices.

This code sets out the procedures and practices for safe management of hazardous waste generated from industrial, institutional and other work activities. It also sets out the key requirements for the collection, transportation, storage, treatment and disposal of hazardous waste. This code briefly covers bio-hazardous and radioactive wastes and other specialised types of waste.

2 Normative references

There are no normative references in this code.