

Staticmaster® Brushes and Ionizing Units

Regulatory requirements

There is no such thing as “harmonization” of governmental regulations on the use of the Staticmaster antistatic products from country to country. Therefore it is most important for you to check and confirm just what are the requirements in the country to which the product would be shipped and used.



United States:

The following statement, which is presented as a Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) Exclusion Statement, is applicable only in the USA. While it might be presented to regulatory bodies in other countries, we can not guarantee that such permissions would be given.

The air ionizing devices manufactured under the name of Staticmaster® are excluded from any requirement to supply Materials Safety Data Sheets (MSDS). The exclusion is set forth in 29 CFR Ch. XVII (7/1/88 Edition) S1910.1200 Hazard Communication Section 6, which states “This section does not apply to :” (iv) Articles.

“Article” means a manufactured item: (i) which is formed to a specific shape or design during manufacture; (ii) which has end use function(s) dependent in whole or in part upon its shape or design during end use; and (iii) which does not release, or otherwise result in exposure to, a hazardous chemical, under normal conditions of use.

The manufacturer of the Staticmaster line of products will not issue MSDS for the explicit reason stated above. It is their position that to do so would mislead both their own and SPI’s customers, implying a hazard which does not exist. All required instructions are included with each shipment.

Furthermore, OSHA has prepared regulations regarding the use of radioactive materials in industrial environments (29 CFR 1910). Such regulations are essentially a restatement of US NRC regulations regarding such materials. The OSHA regulations specifically state that individuals using radioactive materials under the terms of a valid NRC or Agreement State License are exempt from OSHA regulations with regard to the use of our nuclear static eliminators. However, the end user has the responsibility to use the devices in accordance with the instruction sheets provided with the devices.

Our intent was to provide this explanation as to why there is no MSDS provided with these products. Such requests do arise from time to time and in some institutions, the inability to supply an MSDS has resulted in a decision of non-use of the Staticmaster line of products. We believe that is unfortunate since these items are of incomparable quality and in many darkroom situations are literally something that one just can not do without.

Canada:

In order to possess any polonium 210, no matter how small the quantity or lowness in radioactivity, a special license is required. The fact that the license covers holder who might have on hand up to 10 millicuries at one time, and the Staticmaster products have only a few microcuries, seems to not make any difference. A license is required in Canada and the cost is presently CAN \$700.00.

Other countries:

We don’t know what might be the regulations in other countries with regard to the Staticmaster products that contain only a few microcuries of radioactivity. Please check with your local authorities if in doubt. Remember that SPI Supplies can not be responsible for knowing the details of all local regulations in all countries. The burden of responsibility for doing that is completely on the shoulders of the customer.