GLOBAL MATERIALS COMPLIANCE HANDBOOK
To my wife, Christine, for her patience, and daughters, Megan and Madison, for constantly reminding me of the important things in life.

J.D.P.

To my wife, Catherine, for her understanding and loving. Also to Stéphanie, Pascale, and Pierre-Olivier, who are the most beautiful gifts of my life.

P.D.

To my wife, Mary Alice, and children, Meg, Sarah, Liz, and P.T., I love you!

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This book is primarily directed to assisting those individuals who are responsible for material compliance (MC). The term MC refers to activities and processes used to ensure an organization is compliant with legislation related to hazardous (regulated) goods across all aspects of its business; for example, purchasing, research and development, testing, manufacturing, selling, documenting and distribution of regulated materials. Currently, companies spend hundreds of billions of dollars to satisfy these regulatory requirements. Examples of job functions related to MC include the following:

- Personnel who generate and distribute regulatory documents, e.g., safety data sheets, workplace safety cards, labels.
- Staff or third party contractors who train personnel on hazard communication requirements and import/export legislation.
- Personnel involved in the purchase, importation, manufacture or use of hazardous (regulated materials).
- Personnel who take new orders, transport goods locally/internationally or export hazardous (regulated materials).
- Research personnel involved in the development of new/modified formulations or products.

The primary purpose of the hazard communication documents is to prevent injury to workers or consumers, identify potential danger to the environment and be able to quickly and effectively respond to an incident, for example, tanker spill along a roadway or consumption of product by a child.
The book was designed to assist readers to answer the following questions relative to their organization:

- What is MC legislation?
- What components of global MC legislation should my business care about?
- How do I keep track of all this legislation?
- What are the components of a good material compliance system (MCS)?
- What is a MCS-information system (IS) and how can I incorporate one into our business?

In many cases, a lack of knowledge or poor execution of global MC requirements has prevented companies from filling international orders. Most companies now realize that the successful management of MC activities provides a competitive advantage for companies doing business globally, especially as North America and Europe “de-industrialize” and companies move their businesses abroad to capture lower labor costs. Key components of a successful MC management program include a well-defined process, personnel knowledgeable in both regulatory matters and supply chain issues and technology for information transfer.
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