

Initiative to Develop Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) XML Standard

The Defense Logistics Agency is currently working on updates to this page.

1. Download and Install the [XML Notepad from Microsoft's website](#).**XML Notepad Installation Requirements**

Microsoft® Internet Explorer 4.01 with Service Pack 1 or later is necessary to run XML Notepad. If you have Internet Explorer 5 installed, you will be able to take advantage of features offered in both Internet Explorer 4.0 as well as 5.0.

2. Save the DTD, XSD, XSL and XML files to your local drive. It is best to save all four of these files to the same directory.

1. For the DTD, left click and then "save to disk". Name your file, select "All Files" from the "File Type" box, and save. You can also right click and save.
2. For the XML, right click and select "Save Target As," name your file, select "All Files" from the "File Type" box, and save.
3. For the XSD and XSL save as above.
4. You will need to go in to the XML instance and change the directory path/file name for the schema you are going to use (DTD or XSD) Example - if you place your four documents in D:\hmis then the lines in the XML instance will be modified like this:

```
<!DOCTYPE MSDS SYSTEM "D:\hmis\msds_rev1.03.4.dtd"> for DTD validation and  
<!DOCTYPE MSDS SYSTEM "D:\hmis\msds_rev1.03.4.xsd"> for XSD Schema validation
```

5. Also you will need to go in to the XSL style sheet and change the path name of the three GIFs used to your directory above and then go to the DLIS government web site commented out adjacent to those lines and copy the beaker GIF, the "H" GIF and the "MIS" GIF in to your directory. Or, another option is to comment out the three path statements and uncomment the three URL statements if you are on-line. Then you will pick up the GIFs from the government web site on-line. The application will run without doing this step. The GIFs just won't appear at the top of your MSDS.

3. View documents

1. For the DTD, it can be viewed using either Microsoft Notepad or Word (click on Start Menu, then Programs, then Notepad or Word). However, the DTD is more readable if you view it using the software such as the proprietary software previously mentioned.
2. For the XML, it can be viewed using the proprietary software like that previously mentioned and the free Microsoft XML Notepad (click on Start Menu, then Programs, etc).
3. The XSD and XSL can be viewed in any standard editor but are best viewed using one of the XML tools mentioned above.
4. To view the results of the XSL style sheet you can load Internet Explorer and make it a window to partial fill your screen. Next call up Windows Explorer and locate your XML instance. Drag and drop it on to the browser and the rendered XML instance should appear.