Safety Handbook for General Industry – Key Sections

1. Introduction

- Purpose of the safety handbook
- Scope (who and what it covers)
- Company's commitment to safety
- Statement of compliance with OSHA and other regulations

2. General Safety Policies

- Safety rules and expectations
- Roles and responsibilities (employees, supervisors, safety officers)
- Reporting hazards and incidents
- Disciplinary policy for safety violations

3. Hazard Communication

- Explanation of hazard communication standards (HazCom)
- Safety Data Sheets (SDS)
- Labeling requirements
- Employee training and access to hazard info

4. Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

- When and what types of PPE are required
- Proper use and maintenance
- Responsibilities for provision and upkeep

5. Emergency Procedures

- Fire safety (evacuation plans, extinguisher locations)
- Medical emergencies
- Chemical spills
- Natural disasters (earthquake, flood, tornado, etc.)
- Emergency contact list

6. Equipment and Machine Safety

- Lockout/tagout (LOTO) procedures
- Proper machine guarding
- Safe operation procedures
- Maintenance and inspection schedules

7. Electrical Safety

- Basic electrical safety rules
- Working with/around live circuits
- Use of GFCIs and grounding procedures

8. Ergonomics and Manual Handling

- Lifting techniques
- Repetitive strain prevention
- Proper workstation setup

9. Slips, Trips, and Falls Prevention

- Housekeeping standards
- Ladder safety
- Walking/working surface maintenance

10. Chemical and Environmental Safety

- Handling hazardous substances
- Storage and disposal
- Ventilation and containment measures

11. Health and Wellness Policies

- First aid procedures
- Heat stress and cold exposure
- Fatigue management
- Workplace violence prevention

12. Training and Education

- Required safety training programs
- Frequency and documentation
- New employee orientation

13. Incident Reporting and Investigation

- Reporting timeline and process
- Investigation procedures
- Corrective action steps

14. Appendices

- Glossary of terms
- Forms (incident report, safety checklist, etc.)
- Relevant regulations and standards (e.g., OSHA citations)
- Contact info for safety reps or committees