



HazCom Labeling System 2012

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What is the Globally Harmonized System (GHS)?

The Globally Harmonized System (GHS) is an international approach to hazard communication, providing agreed criteria for classification of chemical hazards, and a standardized approach to label elements and safety data sheets.

The result of this negotiation process is the United Nations' document entitled "Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labeling of Chemicals." This document provides harmonized classification criteria for health, physical, and environmental hazards of chemicals. It also includes standardized label elements that are assigned to these hazard classes and categories, and provide the appropriate signal words, pictograms, and hazard and precautionary statements to convey the hazards to users.

OSHA has modified the Hazard Communication Standard (HCS) to adopt the GHS to improve safety and health of workers through more effective communications on chemical hazards.

Information on the GHS Label

The change to HazCom 2012 effects the labeling system that has been used since

1994. Materials in shipped containers must have:

- ▲ Product Identifier (name of product)
- ▲ Signal Word
- ▲ Hazard Statement(s)
- ▲ Pictograms
- ▲ Precautionary statements
- ▲ Contact information for the responsible party, (name, address and phone)
- ▲ Information by Hazard Class
- ▲ Information by Hazard Category

Approach to Labels

The final rule—like the GHS—is a specification approach to labels. In Appendix C, OSHA has indicated by hazard class and hazard category the label elements that must be on the label.

Appendix C is the direction to labeling—once classification of the hazards is completed, Appendix C is to be consulted to determine how to convey the required information.

Colors and Design

The revised Hazard Communication Standard (HCS) requires that all GHS red borders printed on the label have a symbol printed inside it. The red borders increase comprehensibility. Blank red diamonds are not permitted on a label.



Labeling of materials with the GHS format should be printed in English, however, they may also include additional languages. The above label is printed in English, Spanish and Chinese.



Containers with hazardous materials will be labeled with the GHS format as soon as each manufacturer or distributor has completed their reclassification of the chemical. Products should be checked for labeling and the new Safety Data Sheets as they come into the workplace. Replace old MSDS with new data sheets as they arrive.

Within six months of getting new and significant information about the hazards of a material, the container should be labeled accordingly.

Workplace Labeling

OSHA is maintaining the approach used in the HCS 1994 program, that allows employers to use workplace-specific labeling systems as long as they provide the required information.

Employers may choose to label workplace containers either with the same label that would be on shipped containers for the chemical under the revised rule, or with label alternatives that meet the requirements for the standard.

Alternative labeling systems such as the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 704 Hazard Rating and the Hazardous Material Information System (HMIS) are permitted for workplace containers. However, the information supplied on these labels must be consistent with the revised HCS, e.g., no conflicting hazard warnings or pictograms.

SAFETY TRAINING SIGN-IN SHEET

Company Name: _____ Date: _____

Subject: HazCom Labeling System 2012 (GHS)

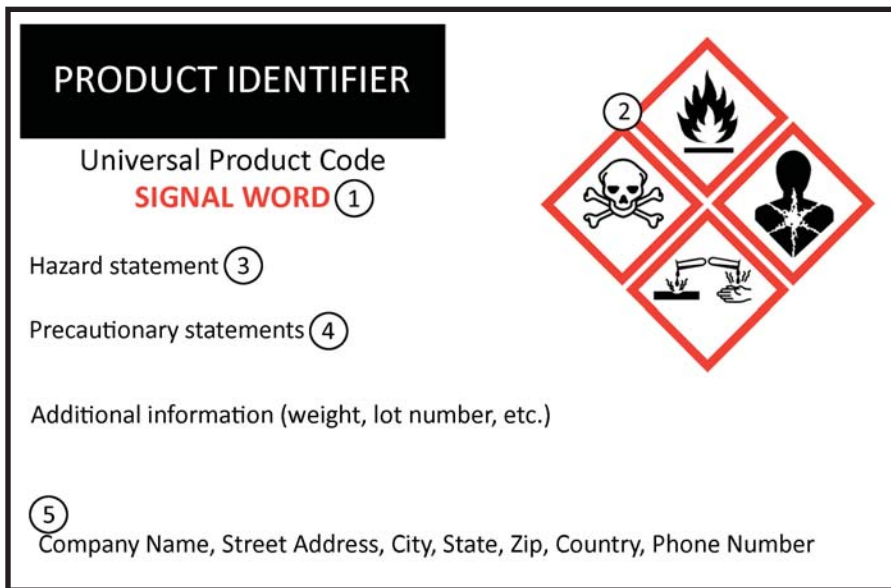
The following employees participated in this training. Sign and Print your name.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____
11. _____
12. _____

HCS Pictograms and Hazards

Health Hazard  Carcinogen Mutagenicity Reproductive Toxicity Respiratory Sensitizer Target Organ Toxicity Aspiration Toxicity	Gas Cylinder  Gases Under Pressure	Flame Over Circle  Oxidizers
Flame  Flammables Pyrophorics Self-Heating Emits Flammable Gas Self-Reactives Organic Peroxides	Corrosion  Skin Corrosion/Burns Eye Damage Corrosive to Metals	Environment (Non-Mandatory)  Aquatic Toxicity
Exclamation Mark  Irritant (skin & eye) Skin Sensitizer Acute Toxicity (harmful) Narcotic Effects Respiratory Tract Irritant Hazardous to Ozone Layer (non-mandatory)	Exploding Bomb  Explosives Self-Reactives Organic Peroxides	Skull & Crossbones  Acute Toxicity (fatal or toxic)

Sample - New Style GHS Label



The chart to the left shows the HCS Pictograms and below each one is the Hazard Classes that it represents.

The diagram above is a sample of a GHS label. At the top is the **Product Identifier** (name) of the material. Below the Identifier the **(1) Signal Word** such as **DANGER** or **WARNING**. To the right are the appropriate **(2) Pictograms**. Following the signal word is the **(3) Hazard Statement** and **(4) Precautionary Statements**. The last requirement is the **(5) Supplier Identification**. Supplemental Information can also be provided.

