

GHS Updates - 2016

High Risk Safety Meeting –Hazmat departments on UL Lafayette Campus

January 2016

As discussed in Hazard Communication Training courses (both online and classroom courses), OSHA has implemented a new Globally Harmonized System (GHS), which took effect at the end 2013. Basic information on the changes to our current Hazardous Communication program to conform to the new GHS standards are outlined on this handout, which will serve as your High-Risk Safety meeting for the first quarter 2016.

GHS System:

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 GHS was negotiated in a multi-year process by hazard communication experts from many different countries, international organizations, and stakeholder groups. It is based on major existing systems around the world, including OSHA's Hazard Communication Standard and the chemical classification and labeling systems of other US agencies.

Recent Changes to the Standard:

- Hazard classification: The definitions of hazard have been changed to provide specific criteria for classification of health and physical hazards, as well as classification of mixtures. These specific criteria will help to ensure that evaluations of hazardous effects are consistent across manufacturers, and that labels and safety data sheets are more accurate as a result.
- Labels: Chemical manufacturers and importers will be required to provide a label that includes a harmonized signal word, pictogram, and hazard statement for each hazard class and category. Precautionary statements must also be provided. **(Affects us the most)**
- Safety Data Sheets: Will now have a specified 16-section format. **(Obtained from Cameo or the Safety Office if needed)**

Labeling Elements Changes:

- Pictogram: a symbol plus other graphic elements, such as a border, background pattern, or color that is intended to convey specific information about the hazards of a chemical. Each pictogram consists of a different symbol on a white background within a red square frame set on a point (i.e. a red diamond). There are nine pictograms under the GHS. However, only eight pictograms are required under the HCS.
- Signal words: a single word used to indicate the relative level of severity of hazard and alert the reader to a potential hazard on the label. The signal words used are "danger" and "warning." "Danger" is used for the more severe hazards, while "warning" is used for less severe hazards.
- Hazard Statement: a statement assigned to a hazard class and category that describes the nature of the hazard(s) of a chemical, including, where appropriate, the degree of hazard.
- Precautionary Statement: a phrase that describes recommended measures to be taken to minimize or prevent adverse effects resulting from exposure to a hazardous chemical, or improper storage or handling of a hazardous chemical.
- Supplier Information

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4.  **1. 2-Propanol** **2. Danger!** **4.** 

3. Highly flammable liquid and vapor
Causes mild skin irritation.
Causes serious eye irritation.
May cause drowsiness or dizziness.

5.
Keep away from heat/sparks/open flames/hot surfaces. - No Smoking. Avoid breathing dust/fume/gas/mist/vapours/spray. IF IN EYES: Rinse cautiously with water for several minutes. Remove contact lenses, if present and easy to do. Continue rinsing. May be harmful if inhaled. Causes respiratory tract irritation. Vapors may cause drowsiness and dizziness. May be harmful if absorbed through skin. Causes skin irritation. Causes eye irritation. May be harmful if swallowed.

6. **Acme Chemical**
101 Main Street
Anywhere, USA

- 1. Product Identifier / Ingredient Disclosure** - Chemical name, product name, or other unique identifier.
- 2. Signal Word** - When required, the signal word indicates the severity of the hazard of the chemical - "Danger" for more severe and "Warning" for less severe.
- 3. Hazard Statement** - Standardized phrases that describe the nature and degree of hazard.
- 4. Pictograms** - A black symbol on a white background with a red border which conveys information about the hazards of a chemical.
- 5. Precautionary Statement** - Standardized phrases that describe recommended measures that should be taken to minimize or prevent adverse effects that result from exposure to the chemical, or from improper handling or storage.
- 6. Supplier Identification** - Name, address, and phone number of the chemical manufacturer, importer, or other responsible party.