

Technical Brief

HazCom 2012

In March of 2012, OSHA published a revision to the Hazard Communication standard to bring it into alignment with the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labeling of Chemicals (GHS). The fundamentals of the original standard are still in place, including the duty of chemical manufacturers and importers to evaluate the chemicals they produce and provide hazard information to employers and their employees by way of hazard labels and safety data sheets. A major difference is that the new standard provides specific criteria both for classifying hazards and for presenting the information on labels and safety data sheets. Following is a summary of the major changes:

- **Hazard classification:** Manufacturers and importers must classify their products based on specific criteria for health and physical hazards. There are 10 health hazard classes and 16 physical hazard classes. One product may fall into multiple classes.
- **Labels:** Based on the hazard classification, manufacturers and importers will be required to provide a label that includes a signal word, pictogram(s), hazard statement(s) and precautionary statements for all applicable hazard classes. Some examples of the new pictograms are listed below:



- **Safety Data Sheets (SDS):** These will now have a specified 16-section format. The label elements will be repeated in Section 2 of the SDS. Sections 12 – 15 will contain non-mandatory information.
- **Information and training:** To prepare employees to recognize and understand the new label elements and safety data sheet format, employers are required to conduct training on the revised hazard communication standard by December 1, 2013.

Below are some other important dates:

Date	Requirement
12/01/2013	Initial employee training on new standard must be completed by this date
06/01/2015	As of this date, manufacturers and importers of workplace products must have updated labeling and safety data sheets for their shipped products
12/01/2015	Distributors have five additional months to sell through any products labeled under the old system. On or after this date, distributors must also have updated labeling and SDS's for their shipped products.
06/01/2016	By this date, employers must update their written hazard communication programs to address the new requirements and complete any additional training necessary for newly identified physical or health hazards.

CRC has your Solution

CRC is reviewing our products to transition them to compliance with this new standard, as applicable. New safety data sheets will be created for all products and will be posted on our website as they become available. Visit our website at www.crcindustries.com.

For more information, contact CRC Technical Services at 800-521-3168.