

WHMIS 2015

What you need to know.....



Revised on May 31st, 2017

The Workplace Hazardous Materials Information System (WHMIS), Canada's national hazard communication standard, is changing to incorporate the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS) – an internationally recognized standard for hazard classification and communication.

Why is this important? MSDS -> SDS

By May 31st 2018, we will replace our current MSDS with a multi-page 16 section Safety Data Sheet (SDS). The new SDS format will contain enhanced technical environmental, health, safety and regulatory information. Product labels as well as workplace labels will also be changing to comply with the new regulations. This document is intended to give you an overview of the changes to come.

Why is GHS being implemented?

Suppliers, employers and employees face many challenges due to the lack of international alignment in the classification, labelling and provision of safety information for workplace hazardous chemicals. This situation may present a problem for global trade as well as causing risk for workers due to inconsistent, confusing information.

Example:

For example, before GHS, a product with an Oral LD₅₀ of 257 mg/kg could have been classified as:

- **Toxic** in Canada, US, Japan and Korea
- **Harmful** in European Union, Australia, Malaysia and Thailand
- **Moderately toxic** in China
- **Hazardous** in New Zealand
- **Non-toxic** in India

What is GHS?

GHS stands for **Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals**. GHS is a system that defines and classifies the hazards of chemical products, and communicates health and safety information on labels and material safety data sheets (called Safety Data Sheets, or SDSs, in GHS). The goal is that the same set of rules for classifying hazards, and the same format and content for labels and safety data sheets (SDS) will be adopted and used around the world.

How is this going to impact us?

On February 11, 2015, the Government of Canada published in the *Canada Gazette*, Part II the *Hazardous Products Regulations* (HPR). The new WHMIS, now called "WHMIS 2015", is based on the new requirements contained in the *Hazardous Products Regulations* (HPR) and *Hazardous Products Act* (HPA), as amended in 2014. GHS will not replace WHMIS. GHS will, however, create some important changes to WHMIS. While WHMIS 2015 includes new harmonized criteria for hazard classification and requirements for labels and safety data sheets (SDS), the roles and responsibilities for suppliers, employers and workers have not changed. GHS brings the following changes:

- New classification rules and hazard classes
- A standardized format for Safety Data Sheet (formerly MSDS) that will now contain 16 sections instead of 9.
- New hazard pictograms
- New label requirements

How will GHS change WHMIS?

Standardized Pictograms in WHMIS 2015

Labels will use new standardized GHS pictograms as shown below.

Gas Cylinder

- Gas Under Pressure



Corrosion

- Corrosive (skin, eyes, or metals)



Flame

- Flammable
- Self-Reactive
- Pyrophoric
- Self-Heating
- In Contact with Water, Emits Flammable Gases
- Organic Peroxide



Exclamation Mark

- Irritation (skin or eyes)
- Skin Sensitization
- Acute Toxicity (harmful)
- Specific Target Organ
- Toxicity – Single Exposure (drowsiness or dizziness, or respiratory irritation)
- Hazardous to the Ozone Layer



Skull & Crossbones

- Acute Toxicity (fatal or toxic)



Health Hazard

- Carcinogenicity
- Respiratory Sensitization
- Reproductive Toxicity
- Specific Target Organ
- Toxicity – Single or Repeated Exposure
- Germ Cell Mutagenicity
- Aspiration Hazard



Explosive Bomb

- Explosive
- Self-Reactive (severe)
- Organic Peroxide (severe)



Environment

- Hazardous to the Aquatic Environment (acute or long-term)











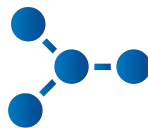







Flame Over Circle

- Oxidizer

How will GHS change WHMIS?

Safety Data Sheet


Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) will be referred to as a Safety Data Sheet (SDS). The GHS standardizes the formatting of SDSs into a MSDSstrict 16 section document with a specific order:

01  Identification	02  Hazard(s) identification	03  Composition/ information on ingredients	04  First-aid measures	05  Fire-fighting measures	06  Accidental release measures
07  Handling and storage	08  Exposure controls/ personal protection	09  Physical and chemical properties	10  Stability and reactivity	11  Toxicological information	12  Ecological information
13  Disposal considerations	14  Transport information	15  Regulatory information	16  Other information		

Hazard Ratings






New GHS rating are inverted and are only found on safety data sheets (SDSs). Some hazard classes may only have 4 categories.

Current Rating

0		Minimal Hazard
1		Slight Hazard
2		Moderate Hazard
3		Serious Hazard
4		Severe Hazard



New GHS

1		Severe Hazard
2		Serious Hazard
3		Moderate Hazard
4		Slight Hazard
5		Minimal Hazard

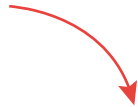


Timeline for transition period

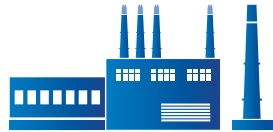
Transitioning from WHMIS 1988 to WHMIS 2015

A multi-year transition plan has been announced. From now until May 31, 2018, suppliers can use either WHMIS 1988 or WHMIS 2015 to classify and communicate the hazards of their products (the suppliers must use one system or the other). Beginning June 1st, 2018, manufacturers must discontinue old labels/MSDS. **Dustbane Products Ltd. will transition to WHMIS 2015 by May 31st, 2018.**

On May 19, 2017, Orders in Council have recently been approved to defer two of the milestones for transition. The changes are reflected below.



MANUFACTURER



DISTRIBUTORS



EMPLOYERS



PHASE 1:

February 11, 2015 to May 31, 2018

Introduction of new labels and SDSs

Either WHMIS 1988 or WHMIS 2015 may be used. All manufacturers should start to transition MSDS to SDS and supplier labels accordingly.

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PHASE 2a:

June 1, 2018 to September 1, 2018

End of sales with old labels/MSDS by manufacturer

Manufacturer must discontinue old labels/MSDSs and must comply with WHMIS 2015.



Distributors must discontinue old labels/MSDSs.

PHASE 2b:

June 1, 2018 to September 1, 2018

End of sales/import/receipt of products with old labels/MSDS

Full implementation supplier labels and SDSs on all products produced or used.

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PHASE 3:

June 1, 2018 to November 30, 2018

Full implementation