

GHS Infographic: What is GHS in Hazard Communication?

This GHS infographic breaks down the changes that can be expected from an MSDS to a GHS transition. Transitioning to a Globally Harmonized System ensures that chemical communication is can be universally recognized using Safety Data Sheets, chemical labels, and pictograms. According to OSHA, Hazard communication is addressed in specific standards for the general industry, shipyard employment, marine terminals, longshoring, and the construction industry.

According to [OSHA](#), these major standard changes include:

- **Hazard classification:** Provides specific criteria for the classification of health and physical hazards, as well as classification of mixtures.
- **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.
- **Safety Data Sheets:** Will now have a specified 16-section format.
- **Information and training:** Employers are required to train workers by December 1, 2013 on the new labels elements and safety data sheets format to facilitate recognition and understanding.

2002

United Nations formally endorsed GHS

2012

OSHA revises their hazard communication Standard to align with GHS

2013

Employees must be trained on GHS Requirements for hazcom by December 1st

What is GHS?

Globally **H**armonized **S**ystem of **C**lassification and **L**abeling of **C**hemicals – an initiative to improve employee safety by standardizing: chemical labels, Safety Data Sheets and pictograms.



GHS Hazard Pictograms

IDENTIFY hazards found in chemicals

CLASSIFY hazards

Visually **WARN** employees

GHS Label Elements

- Signal Words
- Hazard Statement
- Precautionary Statement

MSDS is now SDS (Safety Data Sheet)

Standardized information on:

- Composition
- Handling
- Potential Dangers

What You Need to Know

- Understand GHS pictograms & labels
- How to navigate the SDS
- Recognize hazards
- How to protect yourself from hazards



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