

GHS Safety Data Sheets & Labels Training

Are you GHS Ready?

From the 1st January 2017 GHS compliance (SDS & Labels) became mandatory in those Australian jurisdictions that have enacted the model WHS laws, and in Victoria from 18th June 2017 under the new Occupational Health and Safety Regulations 2017. (OHS Regulations 2017).

Manufacturers and Suppliers are legally responsible for:

- *Providing a Safety Data Sheet (SDS) for Hazardous Chemicals (Hazardous Substances) and Dangerous Goods which complies with local legislative requirements*
- *Reviewing and revising their SDS' as needed (and at least every 5 years or less) to ensure current information is provided*
- *Classification according to GHS criteria*
- *Ensuring relevant SDS information is reflected on their labels*

GHS - “what are the consequences of non-compliance?”

The model WHS Regulations 2011 (and as enacted in Australian jurisdictions) specify penalties for non-compliance, such as r.329 Classification of hazardous chemicals, and r. 335 Labelling of hazardous chemicals – *Maximum penalty: In the case of an individual—\$6 000; In the case of a body corporate—\$30 000; and similar or other amounts for other regulations and sub-regulations.*

Penalties for non-compliance are also stated in similar legislation enacted in other Australian jurisdictions e.g. Victoria:-

OH&S Act 2004: s 29 Duties of manufacturers of plant and substances; s 30 Duties of suppliers of plant or substances*,

- *Penalties for non-compliance: 1800 penalty units for a natural person (\$297,396*); 9000 penalty units for a body corporate (\$1,486,980*); and*

OH&S Regulations 2017: r. 143 Determination of hazardous substances; r 144 – r 148 re. Safety data sheets; r 149-r 151 re. Labelling of hazardous substances

– *Penalties for non-compliance: 100 penalty units for a natural person (\$16,522*), and 500 penalty units for a body corporate (\$82,610*), similar or other amounts for other regulations and sub-regulations.*

*(*The value of a penalty unit for the financial year commencing 1 July 2019 is \$165.22. Penalty units determine the amount a person is fined when they commit an infringeable offence. The value of a penalty unit is set annually by the Department of Treasury and Finance, and is updated on 1 July each year).*

Incorrect classification, labelling, packaging, handling, storage and transport of hazardous chemicals could lead to poor communication of hazards, and lack of hazard awareness by users resulting in adverse health effects, injuries, illness and incidents with consequential litigation and claims.

GHS - “what are the benefits of understanding GHS classification?”

Correct classification of hazardous chemicals is essential and fundamental to compliant SDS' and labels which are essential means for communicating the hazards.

Complying with WHS Regulations on Hazardous Chemicals is a legal responsibility.

However, further benefits can be gained by understanding how the criteria for GHS classifications are influenced by product compositions, and intrinsic properties, manufacturers can design & re-

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design their products to be to achieve safer, lower hazard classifications. Better informed decisions can be made about raw material sources, specifications and purchasing.

HAZCOM GHS Safety Data Sheet training ranges from awareness training in understanding, interpreting and using SDS information, through to actually classifying Hazardous Chemicals (Hazardous Substances), Dangerous Goods and Schedule Poisons, and using this information to author and review SDS'. Our GHS SDS training courses are usually provided as in-house workshops conducted on our customers' premises. We often customise our courses, including the use of our customers' own product information 'in-confidence', to assist in the transfer of skills from the training session to the workplace. The practical component involves reviewing supplier and customer SDS', checking, verifying and validating available information, and for the classifying/authoring courses this includes full product composition details and classification against the relevant criteria (GHS, ADG, SUSMP etc), Codes of Practice and reference information.

GHS, SDS & Label training



Many organisations know our training through the P-E Handley-Walker name – a name synonymous with training and consulting in quality, OHS, environmental and other compliance management areas.

GHS, SDS & Label Courses include:

- Understanding Safety Data Sheets and Labels
- Course in Safety Data Sheets (Australia)
- Course in Safety Data Sheets (Australia and New Zealand)

Training is focussed on your needs, and

Your GHS Trainer and Consultant

Will Ray has over 30 years experience managing a range of areas including Laboratory, Production, Technical Service, Product Formulation and Development, Process Improvement, HAZOP, Process Safety Studies and Chemicals Regulatory Compliance.

integrated with your plans to make the best of your most valuable resource - your people whilst also protecting your intellectual property and technology.

- **Interactive**

class sizes are limited to 15 or fewer; the approach is personal, supplemented with informative and easy-to-understand notes.

- **Successful**

for many of our in-house clients, we have followed the course, after 3 – 6 months, with a participative evaluation of how effectively skills have been applied in the workplace. Over 80% of our training business comes from clients we have worked with over the past eight years.



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His roles have included Chief Chemist, QHSE Manager and Production Manager of specialty chemicals companies, regulatory consultant, internal and external lead auditor, RTO Manager and trainer/assessor. His chemicals expertise covers a wide range of specialty, Dangerous Goods, Hazardous Substances and Scheduled Poisons compliance, Safety Data Sheet and Label authoring.

- Chartered Chemist (CChem MRACI)
- Member of the Australasian Institute of Dangerous Goods Consultants (AIDGC No.074)

