

**The Globally Harmonized System for the Classification and Labelling of Chemicals
(The GHS)**

Implementation of the GHS in Canada

Consumer Chemical Products

Introduction

In order to implement the GHS, existing classification and labelling systems such as the CCCR 2001, will need to be revised to incorporate the classification criteria and labelling elements of the GHS.

The following tables compares the classification criteria and labelling elements of the GHS with those identified health and physical hazard endpoints of the CCCR, 2001. Where possible, criteria were aligned where they were based on the same quantitative measure. This allowed for a visual comparison to be made. A more detailed analysis follows each table to elaborate on the specific similarities or differences between each system and what would be needed to be changed in order to implement the GHS.

A key issue to be dealt with during the implementation of the GHS in Canada may be how the CCCR, 2001 will implement GHS endpoints for chronic hazards which are currently not regulated.

TABLE 1 GHS hazards which are identified on the labels of Consumer Chemicals

Physical Hazards

GHS Hazard Categories	Hazard Identified on the Consumer Chemical Label**
Explosive Substances (Liquid or Solid) and Explosive Articles	no
Flammable Gases	yes
Flammable Aerosols	yes
Oxidizing Gases	no
Gases Under Pressure	yes
Flammable Liquids	yes
Flammable Solids	yes
Self-Reactive Substances	no
Pyrophoric Liquids	no
Pyrophoric Solids	no
Self-Heating Substances	yes *
Substances which in contact with water emit flammable gases	no
Oxidizing Liquids	no
Oxidizing Solids	no
Organic Peroxides	no
Corrosive to Metals	no

Health and Environmental Hazards

GHS Hazard Categories	Hazard Identified on the Consumer Chemical Label
Acute Toxicity - Oral	yes
Acute Toxicity - Skin	yes
Acute Toxicity - Inhalation	yes
Skin Corrosion/Irritation	yes
Serious Eye Damage/Eye Irritation	yes
Respiratory Sensitization	no
Skin Sensitization	no
Mutagenicity	no
Carcinogenicity	no
Reproductive Toxicity	no
Target Organ Systemic Toxicity - Single Exposure	yes*
Target Organ Toxicity - Repeat Exposure	no
Aquatic Toxicity	no

* The CCCR includes requirements for some products (e.g., substances of special concern, spontaneous combustion hazard) that may be captured within these GHS categories.

** The CCCR includes criteria for additional hazards not currently proposed by the GHS (e.g., aspiration hazard, quick skin-bonding adhesives). Harmonized criteria for aspiration hazard is currently being developed under the GHS.