


# Globally Harmonized System Revisions to Labels and Safety Data Sheets




Cal/OSHA has revised its Hazard Communication Standard to align it with the United Nations' Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labeling of Chemicals (GHS). This revision of the Hazard Communication Standard includes two significant changes: (1) new labeling elements and (2) a standardized format for Safety Data Sheets (SDSs), formerly known as Material Safety Data Sheets.

## New Labeling Elements


- 1 – Product Identifier**  
Identifies the substance by name or number
- 2 – Signal Word**  
Alerts users on the severity of hazard
  - Danger: high hazard
  - Warning: low hazard
- 3 – Hazard Statements**  
Describe the nature of the hazards of a substance




⑥




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**ToxiFlam (Contains: XYZ)**  
**Danger! Toxic If Swallowed, Flammable Liquid and Vapor**

④ Do not eat, drink or use tobacco when using this product. Wash hands thoroughly after handling. Keep container tightly closed. Keep away from heat/sparks/open flame. – No smoking. Wear protective gloves and eye/face protection. Ground container and receiving equipment. Use explosion-proof electrical equipment. Take precautionary measures against static discharge. Use only non-sparking tools. Store in cool/well-ventilated place.

**IF SWALLOWED:** Immediately call a POISON CONTROL CENTER or doctor/physician. Rinse mouth. In case of fire, use water fog, dry chemical, CO<sub>2</sub>, or “alcohol” foam.










See Material Safety Data Sheet for further details regarding safe use of this product

⑤ MyCompany, MyStreet, MyTown, NJ 00000, Tel: 444 999 9999

- 4 – Precautionary statements**  
Describe recommended measures that should be taken to minimize or prevent adverse effects resulting from exposure to the substance or improper storage/handling
- 5 – Supplier Information**  
Name, address, and telephone number of the manufacturer, distributor, or importer

## 6 – Pictograms

Convey specific information about the hazard of a substance

	Explosives, Self-reactives, Organic peroxides		Flammables, Self-reactives, Pyrophorics, Self-heating		Oxidizers
	Gas under pressure		Carcinogen, Reproductive/Target organ toxicity, Mutagenicity		Acute toxicity (severe)
	Environmental Toxicity		Irritant, Sensitizer, Acute toxicity, Respiratory tract irritation		Corrosives

## New Safety Data Sheet (SDS) Elements

Manufacturers, distributors, and importers are required to provide Safety Data Sheets (SDSs), formerly known as Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDSs), to communicate the hazards of hazardous substances. The Cal/OSHA revision of the Hazard Communication Standard requires SDSs to follow a standardized 16-section format. The 16 sections are (sections most relevant to workplace health and safety are boxed):

### 1. Identification

Includes product identifier, manufacturer/distributor/important contact information, emergency phone number, recommended uses, and restrictions on use.

### 2. Hazard(s) identification

Includes all hazards regarding the substance and hazard/precautionary statements from label.

### 3. Composition/information on ingredients

Includes information on chemical ingredients and concentrations (for mixtures).

### 4. First-aid measures

Includes information on symptoms/effects and required treatments.

### 5. Fire-fighting measures

Lists suitable extinguishing methods and equipment, and chemical hazards created from a fire involving the substance.

### 6. Accidental release measures

Lists emergency procedures, protective equipment, and containment methods for cleanup.

### 7. Handling and Storage

Lists precautions for safe handling and storage, including incompatible chemicals.

### 8. Exposure controls/personal protection

Lists Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) Permissible Exposure Limits (PELs) for chemical ingredients and appropriate engineering controls, administrative controls, and personal protective equipment (PPE).

### 9. Physical and chemical properties

Lists the substance's physical and chemical properties.

### 10. Stability and reactivity

Lists the substance's chemical stability and potential hazardous reactions.

### 11. Toxicological information

Includes routes of exposure and related symptoms, acute and chronic effects, and numerical measures of toxicity.

### 12. Ecological information

Includes environmental impact information like ecotoxicity, persistence and degradability, and mobility in soil.

### 13. Disposal considerations

Includes description of waste residues and proper handling and disposal methods.

### 14. Transport information

Includes information on packing/shipping methods in order to comply with regulations.

### 15. Regulatory information

Safety, health, and environmental regulations from state, federal, and overseas agencies for the substance.

### 16. Other information

Includes date of preparation or last revision.

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