WHMIS LABELING STANDARDS FOR HAZARDOUS CHEMICAL IDENTIFICATION



COMPLIES WITH CCOHS
CANADIAN CENTRE FOR OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY

Workplace Hazardous Materials Information System (WHMIS) defines and classifies hazards of chemical products while communicating health and safety information on labels and material safety data sheets (SDS) for Canadian workplaces. WHMIS outlines the protocol for labeling chemicals by including criteria for the classification of health, physical and environmental hazards. By creating a standardized format, WHMIS provides a set of guidelines for ensuring the safe use of hazardous materials making workplace conditions safer for all employees exposed to chemical hazards.

Elements of the Globally Harmonized System

WHMIS is a national hazard communication system that provides information on the safe use of hazardous products in Canadian workplaces. Elements of the Globally Harmonized System (GHS) standard have been incorporated within WHMIS, resulting in new standardized:

- **Classification of Chemicals** Chemical manufacturers are required to determine the hazards associated with each chemical they produce.
- **Standardized Labeling Format** All chemical labels must include six key elements to describe the hazardous material.
- Standardized Safety Data Sheets (SDS) SDSs continue to be required in both English and French and follow a standard 16-section format with specific information requirements.

Labeling Format

WHMIS requires labels to be bilingual (English/French), easy to read and durable. If the label is lost, damaged or no longer readable, the product must be relabeled. The pictogram(s), signal word and hazard statement(s) must be grouped together on a label.

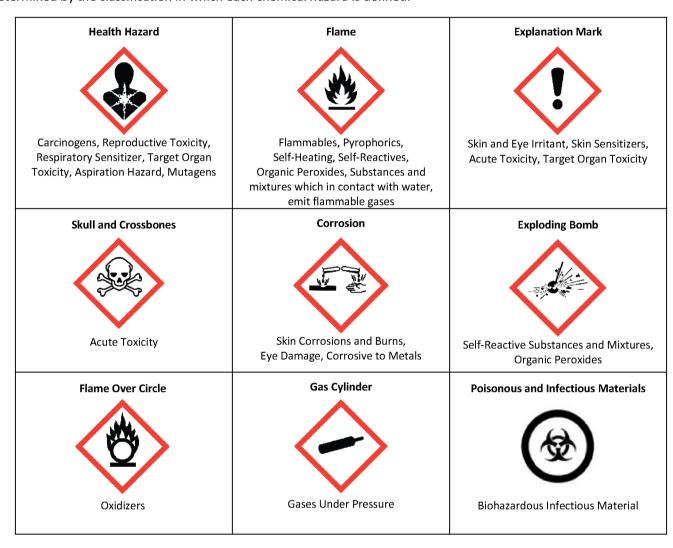
- Product Identifier The product name exactly as it appears on the container and on the Safety Data Sheet (SDS).
- Hazard Pictograms Hazard pictograms, determined by the hazard classification of the product. In some cases, no pictogram is required.
- 3. **Signal Word** "Danger" or "Warning" is used to emphasize hazards and indicate the severity of the hazard.
- 4. **Hazard Statements** Brief standardized statements of all hazards based on the hazard classification of the product.
- Precautionary Statements Phrases that describe preventative measures including protective equipment, emergency response and first aid information.
- Manufacturer Information Company which made, packaged, sold or imported the product, and is responsible for the label and SDS.





Hazard Communication Pictograms and Hazards

The product label is the workers first source of information regarding hazards and how to use products safely. WHMIS requires pictograms based on the severity of the hazard. In some cases, no pictogram is required. Each pictogram is determined by the classification in which each chemical hazard is defined.



Marking Services Canada goes beyond what is required to allow contractors and owners to include relevant information for the safe, efficient operations of their facilities. As a single source supplier, MSC works with customers to develop a comprehensive identification labeling/signage program. We offer a complement of services including design, engineering, take-off, manufacturing and installation or full turnkey packages to complete labeling programs from beginning to end in a seamless, cost effective process.

For more information on the WHMIS 2015 Standard, please visit the following source:

Canadian Centre for Occupational Health and Safety - http://whmis.org/