

GHS LABELING: PROTECTING YOUR CLIENTS FROM VIOLATIONS



PROTECTING YOUR CLIENTS FROM OSHA VIOLATIONS

Ensuring that potentially hazardous chemicals are clearly and consistently labeled has been a growing area of international regulatory focus. The Globally Harmonized System (GHS) of Classification and Labeling of Chemicals provides a standardized method of identifying chemical hazards throughout any facility.

Print distributors knowledgeable about GHS labeling are tremendously valuable to their clients because they can help them design and produce labels compliant with Hazardous Communications Standard (HCS, or more commonly abbreviated HazCom) regulations from the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), thus avoiding legal action and potentially disastrous fines.

There is a lot to learn in the GHS label market, but distributors who take the time to invest in this knowledge are setting themselves up for success. GHS labels are custom designed for each client. Once these jobs are in place, they are repeatable and highly profitable, often in the neighborhood of 30% gross margin.

Figure 1: Safety Data Sheet (SDS)

Material Safety Data Sheet
acc. to ISO/DIS 11014
Page 1/5
Printing date 11/15/2011
Reviewed on 11/15/2011

1 Identification of the substance/mixture and of the company/undertaking
Product identifier:
Trade name: **H-80E FOUNTAIN CONCENTRATE**
Article number: H813
Application of the substance / the preparation: **Wetting agent**
Details of the supplier of the safety data sheet:
Manufacturer/Supplier:
Prisco Service
28 Blanchard Street
Newark, NJ 07105
Information department: 1-873-559-7000 (MSDS revised 11/15/2011), Prisco email address: safety@prisco.com
Emergency telephone number: CHEMTREC (24 hr) 1-800-424-9300

2 Composition/information on ingredients
Chemical characterization: **Mixture**
Description: **Mixture of the substances listed below with nonhazardous additives.**
Dangerous components:
107-21-1 ethylene glycol 5 - 10%
X0 R22
112-34-5 diethylene glycol monobutyl ether 5 - 10%
X0 R38
64-19-7 acetic acid 10 - 20%
C R3
R10
57-55-8 propylene glycol
No R22/R23, X0 R36/37/38
Additional information: For the wording of the listed risk phrases refer to section 16.

3 Hazards identification
Classification of the substance or mixture:
Classification according to Directive 67/548/EEC or Directive 1999/45/EC:
Irritant
Irritating to eyes and skin.
Xn Irritant
Information concerning particular hazards for human and environment:
The product has to be labelled due to the calculation procedure of the "General Classification guideline for preparations of the EU" in the latest valid version.
R 36 Irritating to eyes.
Classification system:
The classification was made according to the latest editions of international substances lists, and expanded upon from company and literature data.
Label elements:
Labelling according to EU guidelines:
The product has been classified and marked in accordance with directives on hazardous materials.
Code letter and hazard designation of product:
Irritant
Risk phrases:
Irritating to eyes and skin.
Safety phrases:
When using do not eat, drink or smoke.
Do not breathe gas/fumes/vapour/spray (appropriate wording to be specified by the manufacturer).
Avoid contact with skin and eyes.
Avoid contact with eyes. Rinse immediately with plenty of water and seek medical advice in case of contact with eyes.
Wear suitable gloves and eye/face protection.
This material and its container must be disposed of as hazardous waste.
(Cont'd. on page 2)

Material Safety Data Sheet
acc. to ISO/DIS 11014
Page 2/5
Reviewed on 11/15/2011

FOUNTAIN CONCENTRATE
(Cont'd. of page 1)

11
em:
P - 4)
B - 4)
of incompatibilities please present stably in safe position for transportation, adequately with water and soap and rinse thoroughly.
oral minutes under running water. If symptoms persist, consult a doctor.
forms persist consult doctor.
ent:
or water spray. Fight larger fires with water spray or alcohol resistant foam.
the substance or mixture. No further relevant information available.
official measures required.
is
ective equipment and emergency procedures Not required.
urface or ground water.
ntainment and cleaning up:
oil (sand, diatomite, acid binders, universal binders, sawdust).
safe handling:
personal protection equipment:
goggles.
used receptacles:
at the workplace.
explosions and fires: No special measures required.
its and receptacles: No special requirements.
vious storage facility. Not required.
ditions: Water receptacle tightly sealed.
int information available.
its
of technical systems: No further data, see item 7.
(Cont'd. on page 3)

SET YOUR CLIENTS UP FOR SUCCESS

HazCom is the second most frequently cited federal workplace safety and health standard, behind only the construction industry's fall protection standard. Between October 2018 and September 2019 alone, OSHA cited the HazCom 4,102 times and levied fines totaling \$5.1 million.¹

As a print distributor, you can guide your clients in GHS-compliant labeling practices that not only help them avoid HazCom violations, but also that keep their employees safer and more informed about the substances they're handling and to which they are being exposed.

GHS labels are complex products, so it's important to choose a label production vendor with the right technology and expertise to help you.

MEETING OSHA REQUIREMENTS

OSHA requires entities at all levels of the supply chain, from manufacturing to final use, to maintain clear labels and safety data sheets (SDS) about potentially hazardous substances. (Figure 1 shows a sample of an SDS.) The rules were brought in line with the Globally Harmonized System in 2012, and as of 2015, they involve the use of warning pictograms to denote different levels of risk.

Labels that comply with HazCom use a few key elements of the substance's longer SDS. Manufacturers consult three appendices of HazCom to determine the warnings that belong on their labels. Refer to these appendices in document 1910.1200 on the OSHA website.

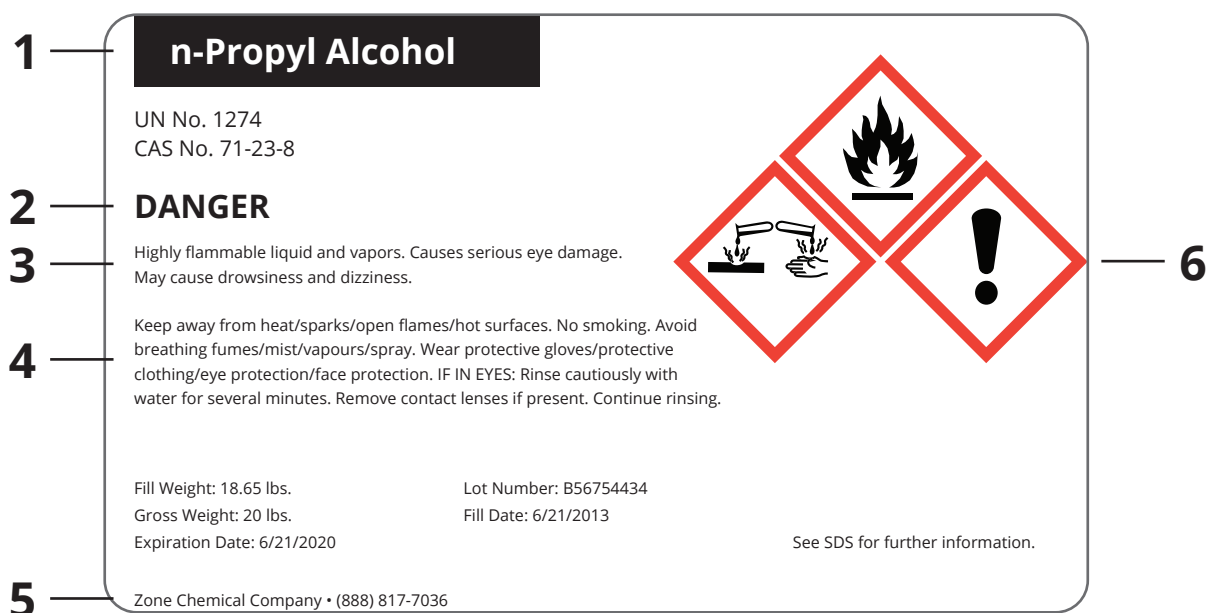


For quick, easy reference to OSHA 1910.1200, scan this QR Code.

¹ <https://ehsdailyadvisor.blr.com/2020/05/an-in-depth-look-at-hazard-communication-enforcement/>

ELEMENTS OF A HAZCOM LABEL

GHS labels must contain the appropriate signal words, hazards statements, precautionary statements, and pictograms found in OSHA 1910.1200. They must also contain identification of the product inside, along with the name, address, and phone number of the company responsible. Manufacturers, importers, and other businesses taking charge of the supply chain list their own information on the labels.



1. **Product Identifier** - Should match the product identifier on the Safety Data Sheet.
2. **Signal Word** - Either use “Danger” (severe) or “Warning” (less severe)
3. **Hazard Statements** - Phrases assigned to hazard classes that describe the nature of the product’s hazards.
4. **Precautionary Statements** - Describes recommended measures to minimize or prevent adverse effects resulting from exposure.
5. **Supplier Identification** - Name, address, and telephone number of the manufacturer or supplier.
6. **Pictograms** - Pictorial symbols intended to convey specific hazard information in visual form.

In addition to these must-have elements, companies are free to add their own descriptions, instructions, or warnings. When a substance contains more than one percent of ingredients of unknown acute toxicity, that information must be disclosed in the supplemental information portion of the label, as well.

PICTOGRAM GUIDE

CHEMICAL/ PHYSICAL RISK

EXPLODING BOMB

Explosives,
organic peroxides,
self-reactive substances



FLAME

Flammable gases,
liquids, & solids;
self-reactives;
pyrophorics;
self-heating



FLAME OVER CIRCLE

Oxidizing gases,
liquids and solids



GAS CYLINDER

Compressed gases;
liquefied gases;
dissolved gases



CORROSION

Corrosive
to metals



HEALTH RISK

CORROSIVE

Damage eye,
burn and/or
corrode skin



SKULL AND CROSSBONES

Acute toxicity
(severe, fatal)



EXCLAMATION MARK

Irritant, dermal
sensitizer, acute
toxicity (harmful)



HEALTH HAZARD

Carcinogens,
respiratory sensitizers,
reproductive toxicity,
target organ toxicity,
germ cell mutagens



ENVIRONMENTAL RISK

ENVIRONMENT

Aquatic toxicity
(Not regulated
by OSHA)



CHOOSING LABEL MATERIALS

Selecting materials for GHS labels often comes down to the environments in which the products will be stored or transported. For example, chemical drums transported by sea must comply with British Standard 5609 (BS 5609), meaning that they won't dissolve when submerged in sea water for a minimum of three months. Because of the harsh conditions to which most GHS labels are subjected, stocks used for these applications are generally synthetic, such as vinyl or polyester.

One way to speed the printing of compliant labels is to invest in fan-folded sheets of label stock. In standard sizes such as 8.5" x 3.9375", 8.5" x 10.875", and 8.5" x 13.875", and with adhesive already applied, these sheets are designed to be pin fed through compliant printers. Thus, they combine assembly line efficiency with GHS compliance.

SELECTING A VENDOR WITH THE RIGHT PRINTING SOLUTIONS

Wise offers a variety of printing technologies to meet every GHS labeling need. There are three main printing methods, each of which has different capabilities to meet both general HazCom requirements and specific benchmarks such as BS 5609. Our range of equipment ensures that we have the right equipment for every market vertical and application.

- **Inkjet:** Wise uses the Epson C-831, which is an inkjet printer designed to create the kinds of tough large-format labels required on chemical drums and other containers. The printer is designed to be as rugged as the labels it prints, and its pin feeder ensures accuracy in printing.
- **Laser:** Wise uses Lexmark laser printers, which are also designed for GHS compliance. When users print in full color, they can use blank label stock. As with Epson's solutions, Lexmark's label printers are capable of producing BS 5609-compliant labels for use on chemical drums.
- **Thermal Transfer:** For thermal transfer, Wise has chosen Zebra machines that offer approved combinations of label stock and printer ribbons. Materials printable on these machines include laminates, polyester, and vinyl, with plenty of options that comply with BS 5609 and are designed to bond tightly with common drum materials. Instead of the full-color printing style of laser printers, these labels are created with pre-printed pictogram diamonds or in two passes on two-color thermal printers.

GETTING AND STAYING COMPLIANT

Manufacturers and importers of chemicals simply can't afford to take chances with GHS labeling. Getting in line with HazCom and creating labels that stand up to high levels of strain and punishment is an essential way to help your clients avoid penalties, make products safer for users at all levels, and set their companies up for success.

GHS labels can be complex, but working with a vendor like Wise makes the process easy. We have the experience and expertise to design and produce GHS labels that protect your clients by getting these mission-critical labels right — the first time.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Visit: wbf.com/ghs

Call: (888) 817-7036

OSHA: osha.gov/dsg/hazcom