

GHS AND CLP

– NEW HAZARD LABELING AND CLASSIFICATION

CLP is the Regulation on classification, labeling and packaging of substances and mixtures. This Regulation aligns previous EU legislation on classification, labeling and packaging of chemicals to the GHS (Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labeling of Chemicals).

Its main objectives are to facilitate international trade in chemicals and to maintain the existing level of protection of human health and environment. The GHS is a United Nations system to identify hazardous chemicals and to inform users about these hazards through standard symbols and phrases on the packaging labels and through safety data sheets (SDS).

The CLP Regulation was published in the Official Journal 31 December 2008 and entered into force on 20 January 2009. According to the Regulation, the deadline for substance classification according to the new rules will be 1 December 2010. For mixtures, the deadline will be 1 June 2015.

CLP-Pictograms

The new CLP-pictograms are in the shape of a red diamond with a white background, and will replace the old orange square symbols which applied under the previous legislation.

Physical hazards pictograms



Explosive



Flammable



Oxidizing



Compressed Gas



Corrosive

Health hazards pictograms



Toxic



Health Hazard



Irritant

Environmental hazards pictograms



Environmentally
Damaging



Signal Words

The CLP Regulation introduces two new signal words that inform about the degree of danger

- »**DANGER**« If the chemical has a more severe hazard
- »**WARNING**« in case of less severe hazard

H and P statements

H and P statements will replace the R and S statements.

Hazard (H-) Statements are aligned in 3 categories. The first digit determines the group (2 for physical hazards, 3 for health hazards, 4 for environmental hazards). The last 2 digits are the serial numbers.

Precautionary (P-) Statements are aligned in 5 categories. The first digit determines the group (1 for general statements, 2 for prevention statement, 3 for response statements, 4 for storage statements, 5 for disposal statements). The last digits are the serial numbers.