

Hazard Communication Standard CRF 1910.1200

Module II Lesson I: What is Necessary for Workplace Compliance?

Module II Learning Objectives

Upon completion of Module II, you should be able to:

- Discuss the Hazard Communication Standard and the Globally Harmonized System
- Identify the new Hazard Classifications
- Distinguish GHS labels and other forms of warning
- Recognize the requirements and components of Safety Data Sheets

Lesson I: What is Necessary for Workplace Compliance?

Hazard Communication and the Globally Harmonized System (GHS)

Learning Objectives

Upon completion of Lesson I, you should be able to:

- Discuss the OSHA Hazard Communication Standard and the recent updates.
- Recognize the components of a Hazard Communication Plan and why it is a requirement for all worksites.

Background of the Hazard Communication Standard

Adopted in 1983 in the U.S. with limited scope.

In 1987, scope was expanded to cover all industries where employees are potentially exposed to hazardous chemicals.

Purpose: Ensure that hazards of all chemicals produced or imported are classified, and that information concerning the classified hazards is transmitted to employers and employees.

In 2012, OSHA revised the Hazard Communication Standard adopting the United Nations' Globally Harmonized System for Classification and Labeling of Chemicals (GHS).

New Hazard Communication requirements provide consistency with the provisions of the GHS.

Four Major Changes:

1. **Hazard Classification**: Specific criteria for classification of health and physical hazards, and classification of mixtures, must be provided.
2. **Labels**: Chemical manufacturers and importers must provide a label that includes a consistent signal word, pictogram, hazard statement and precautionary statements.
3. **Safety Data Sheets (SDS)**: Now a specific 16-section format is required use.

4. **Information and training:** To facilitate understanding of the new system, the new standard required that workers be trained by December 1, 2013 on the new label elements and safety data sheet format, in addition to the current training requirements.

Component of a Hazard Communication Program

Employers are required to convey the required hazard communication information to all employees **via a written Hazard Communication Plan.**

Employers are required to:

1. **Identify** an employee who has primary responsibility for implementation of the Program.
2. **Prepare a written Plan** to indicate how hazard communications will be addressed in your facility.
3. **Prepare an inventory** of all hazardous chemicals in the workplace.
4. **Ensure all containers are labeled.**
5. **Maintain Safety Data Sheets (SDS)** for each hazardous chemical and ensure availability to staff
6. **Train all employees** on hazardous chemicals in their work areas before initial assignment.
7. **Evaluate the Program** periodically and revise as conditions change.

Required Employee Training

1. Discuss the requirements of the HCS and address any questions.
2. Point out areas where hazardous chemicals are located including at multiple worksites.
3. Identify location of:
 1. the written Hazard Communication Program
 2. the chemical inventory list
 3. the SDS

Elements of a Successful Training Program for Your Setting

1. Describe how your office detects the presence of a hazardous chemical.
2. Identify the physical and health hazards in your office.
3. Discuss how each employee can protect themselves:
 1. Personal protective equipment (PPE)
 2. Emergency procedures
4. Remind all staff:
 1. Labels on shipped products should not be removed
 2. Outline the labeling system in your office

Conclusion of Lesson I: What Is Necessary for Workplace Compliance?

Recap:

- Discussed the HCS and the GHS updates
- Identified the Hazard Classifications, definitions, and labeling of chemicals
- Distinguished GHS labels and other forms of warning
- Recognized the requirements and components of Safety Data Sheets