


OSHA's revised Hazard Communication requirements as of June 1, 2015

As of June 1, 2015, chemical manufacturers, importers, distributors and employers are required to provide a common approach to classifying chemicals and communicating hazard information on labels and safety data sheets. Chemical manufacturers and importers must provide a label that includes a signal word, [pictogram](#), hazard statement, and precautionary statement for each hazard class and category. 

Examples of [label pictograms](#).

Beginning in December, distributors may only ship containers labeled by the chemical manufacturer or importer if the labels meet these requirements.

The June 1 deadline was established when OSHA aligned its [Hazard Communication Standard](#) in 2012 with the global standard for chemical product labeling. The provisions for labeling offer workers better protection from chemical hazards, while also reducing trade barriers and improving productivity for American businesses that regularly handle, store, and use hazardous chemicals. The updated standard also provides cost savings for American businesses that periodically update safety data sheets and labels for chemicals covered under the standard, saving businesses millions of dollars each year.

The new format for [Safety Data Sheets](#) requires 16 specific sections to ensure consistency in presentation of important protection information. For more information, see OSHA's [Hazard Communication webpage](#)."