

October 2014

Revised LabChem Labels

Dear LabChem Customer,

As part of its revision to the Hazard Communication Standard (HCS), 29 CFR 1910.1200, OSHA has adopted labeling requirements bringing the United States into alignment with the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labeling of Chemicals (GHS). The modified HCS provides a set of harmonized criteria for classifying products according to the chemical's health and physical hazards. Providing for specific hazard communication elements for labeling and safety data sheets (SDS), the new standard aims to improve the quality, consistency, and comprehension of hazard information in the workplace, making it safer for employees.

Beginning June 1, 2015, manufacturers must ship all hazardous chemicals with labels containing specified GHS elements including pictograms, signal words, and hazard and precautionary statements. Until that effective date, manufacturers and distributors may ship hazardous chemicals under the guidelines of the previous standard (HCS 1994) or the newer GHS-compliant standard. Distributors may continue shipping items labeled under either standard until December 1, 2015.

LabChem has already begun to implement the new standard for both product labels and safety data sheets (SDS). We are ahead of schedule for the June deadline and will continue to update products as we move forward. Until then, you may see a mix of old and new labels – both are still compliant with OSHA requirements. During this interim, LabChem will not authorize returns based upon label and/or SDS (formerly MSDS) format.

For an example of LabChem's new GHS-compliant label, please visit:
<http://www.labchem.com/documents-reports/label-information.html>

For more information on GHS, please visit:
<https://www.osha.gov/dsg/hazcom/HCSFactsheet.html>

Thank you for your continued support of LabChem.