Guide for Suppliers

WHMIS 2015

The adoption of the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS) into WHMIS harmonized Canada's chemical hazard communication system with those of other countries.

Are you a supplier?

In Canada, a supplier is any retailer who sells hazardous products to another company. Suppliers include manufacturers, importers, and distributors of hazardous products.

As a supplier you have obligations under WHMIS 2015

All suppliers must comply with the requirements of the *Hazardous Products Act* (HPA) and the *Hazardous Products Regulations* (HPR), as administered by Health Canada. Importers of hazardous products used directly in their own workplace are also governed by this legislation. As a Canadian supplier of hazardous products you are required to:

- Identify which of your products are hazardous products;
- Determine the hazardous product classification based on a comparison of all available hazard data. This means reviewing the ingredients or mixture and comparing what is in the product to the WHMIS requirements as outlined in the Hazardous Products Regulations (WHMIS 2015);
- Prepare or obtain bilingual (English/French) supplier labels and Safety Data Sheets (SDSs);
- Affix your supplier labels to the hazardous products;
- Provide the purchasing company with the SDS for the hazardous product purchased. This can be either by hard copy or by electronic means;
- Prepare and maintain documents, including copies of labels and SDSs, as well as sales and purchasing information. You must have these documents available if requested by either Health Canada or a territorial Safety Officer/Mine Inspector;
- Update your SDSs and labels within 90 and 180 days, respectively, when you become aware of "significant new data" (i.e., information which changes the classification of the hazardous product or ways to protect against the hazards presented by the product); and
- Disclose any information required to appear on an SDS to a safety or health professional in an emergency.

Sources: Technical Guidance on the HPA/HPR WHMIS 2015 Supplier Requirements Phase 1,

CCOHS http://www.ccohs.ca/oshanswers/chemicals/whmis_ghs/general.html