

# **WHMIS 2015**

## What is WHMIS?

WHMIS is a short form for Workplace Hazardous Materials Information System. It is a comprehensive plan for providing information on the safe use of hazardous materials used in Canadian workplaces. The purpose of WHMIS is to ensure that workers and employees have the information they need to work safely with hazardous materials at work sites. Information is provided by means of product labels, safety data sheets (SDS) and worker education programs.

On February 11, 2015, the Government of Canada published in the Canada Gazette, Part II the Hazardous Products Regulations (HPR), which, in addition to the amendments made to the Hazardous Products Act under the Economic Action Plan 2014 Act, No.1, modified the Workplace Hazardous Materials Information System (WHMIS) 1988 to incorporate the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS) for workplace chemicals. This modified WHMIS is referred to as WHMIS 2015. The Controlled Products Regulations (CPR) and the Ingredient Disclosure List have been repealed.

While WHMIS 2015 includes new harmonized criteria for hazard classification and requirements for labels and safety data sheets (SDS), the roles and responsibilities for suppliers, employers and workers have not changed.

Responsibilities under WHMIS

Suppliers, employers and workers all have responsibilities in the Hazardous Products Act.

Suppliers: Canadian suppliers are those who sell or import products. When this product is considered a "controlled product" or "hazardous product" according to the WHMIS legislation, a supplier must label the product or container, and provide a safety data sheet (SDS) to their customers. The purpose of the labels is to clearly identify the contents of the hazardous material, and the SDS is to explain what those hazards are.

Employers: Employers are required to establish education and training programs for workers exposed to hazardous products in the workplace. Employers must also make sure that the products are labelled and that an SDS is present for each product and that they are readily available to workers. At Swab Master SDS and WHMIS information are found in the shop, rigs, and on line at www.swabmaster.com

## Workers Responsibilities

Workers are required to participate in the training programs and to use this information to help them work safely with hazardous materials.

The Worker must fulfill these responsibilities:

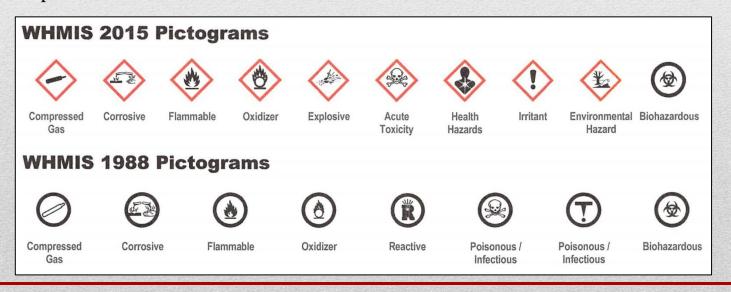
- Know and understand The content required on supplier labels and workplace labels, including the requirement for information on the availability of an SDS
- Understand the significance of information on labels and other means of identification to worker health and safety
- Know the procedures that are indicated by information on these labels for the safe
  use, storage, handling, and disposal of controlled products as well as the procedures
  to be followed if fugitive emissions are present or an emergency involving a
  hazardous product arises.
- Handle hazardous products in accordance with label and identifier alerts. Follow employer directives to avoid removing, defacing, or altering labels. Inform employers of illegible or missing labels and other means of identification.
- Inform the employer if the worker has inadequate information on a hazardous product or insufficient training on its storage, handling, use, or disposal to ensure worker health and safety
- Notify management when bringing in a new controlled product and a copy of the SDS sheet provided needs to be sent to the office for distribution.
- Follow recommended procedures to protect self and others.

The main functions of the WHMIS Program are hazard identification and product classification.

Hazard Classes: The Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS) includes three types of hazard classes: physical hazard classes, which represent hazards relating to physical and chemical properties, such as flammability or compressed gases; health hazard classes, which represent hazards to health arising from exposure to a substance or mixture, such as acute toxicity or skin sensitization; and environmental hazard classes (hazardous to the aquatic environment and hazardous to the ozone layer).

• Physical Hazards: The GHS physical hazard classes subdivide physical hazards in a manner that differs from the Controlled Products Regulations (CPR); however, nearly all of the physical hazards that are covered in the CPR are addressed by the GHS physical hazard classes. All GHS physical hazard classes except the Explosives hazard class have been adopted in Canada by the Hazardous Products Regulations (HPR). In addition, the following new physical hazard classes have been introduced in the HPR to enhance protections for workers: Combustible Dusts, Simple Asphyxiants, Pyrophoric Gases and Physical Hazards Not Otherwise Classified.

- Health Hazards: The GHS health hazard classes subdivide health hazards in a manner that differs from the CPR; however, these classes address nearly all of the health hazards that are currently covered in the CPR and introduce some additional types of hazards that are not currently covered but would enhance protections for workers (for example, aspiration hazard). All GHS health hazard classes have been adopted in Canada by the HPR. The Biohazardous Infectious Materials hazard class (which is not a GHS health hazard class) has been retained in the HPR in order to maintain worker protection, and a new Health Hazards Not Otherwise Classified class has also been introduced.
- Environmental Hazards: The GHS environmental hazard classes have not been adopted in the HPR.



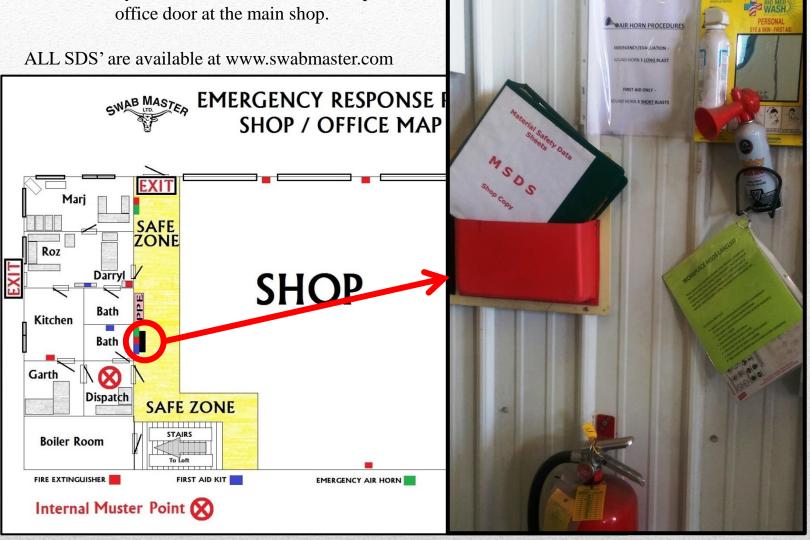
# Labelling

The label on a hazardous product is the worker's first source of information about the hazards of the product. It provides workers with information on safe handling, storage and use of the hazardous product and how to protect them from adverse effects related to exposures to the product

The general concept of communicating the hazards of a product on a label and safety data sheet (SDS) through pictures and statements that convey messages about hazards, precautions and first aid measures remains the same under the new HPR. However, different pictograms and statements are required under the HPR than were required under the CPR.

There are two main kinds of WHMIS labels, supplier labels and work place labels. Other means of identification are used in special circumstances. The label applied to a container of a controlled product must be prominently positioned on the part of the container that is displayed under normal conditions of storage and use.

Our SDS Binder and Workplace labels can be found at the Safety Station located outside the dispatch office door at the main shop.



# Swab Master Ltd. Workplace Labels

Place these stickers on any secondary container of ALL chemicals / substances. Refer to the SDS when writing in the information. Place the sticker on a highly visible portion of the container – Cover it with clear tape to keep the information protected. Replace any time it is necessary, for example; faded information, adding new product to the container, etc...



### A workplace label must:

- appear on all hazardous products produced in a workplace or transferred to other containers
- may appear in placard form on controlled products received in bulk from a supplier
- Have the following information:
  - product identifier (product name)
  - information for the safe handling of the product
  - statement that the SDS is available
  - May contain the WHMIS hazard symbols or other pictograms.

Material Safety Data Sheets – Safety Data Sheets (MSDS / SDS)

Under the new GHS – Material Safety Data Sheets are now referred to as Safety Data Sheets.

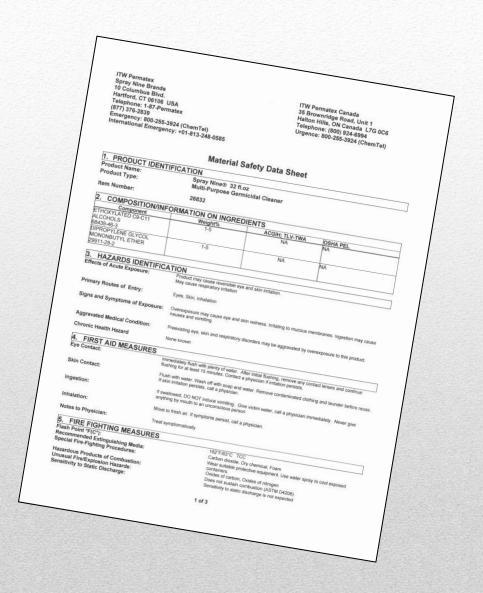
If you need to know more about a product than you can find on the label, go to the product's SDS. These sheets have more detailed information about a product's properties, its hazards, and how to prevent overexposure. It lists only the ingredients considered to be hazardous, along with their concentrations. The Supplier is to send a copy of the SDS with every hazardous product the employer buys. Any new hazardous product must have a SDS sheet sent to the office for distribution.

When Would You Use a SDS?

Always be familiar with the hazards of a product BEFORE you start using it. You should look at a SDS, match the name of the chemical on your container to the one on the SDS, know the hazards, understand safe handling and storage instructions, as well as understand what to do in an emergency.

#### There are 16 Sections of an SDS

- 1. Identification
- 2. Hazard(s) Identification
- 3. Composition/information of ingredients
- 4. First Aid Measures
- 5. Fire-Fighting Measures
- 6. Accidental Release Measures
- 7. Handling & Storage
- 8. Exposure Control/PPE
- 9. Physical / Chemical Properties
- 10. Stability & Reactivity
- 11. Toxicological Information
- 12. Ecological Information
- 13. Disposal Considerations
- 14. Transport Information
- 15. Regulatory Information
- 16. Other Information



## **Opportunity Reports**

This form is used to report, track and complete defects or faults. These reports are tracked by the coding on the bottom right hand side. Do not use duplicated forms. Safety issues, hazard identification, process errors, vehicle defects, vehicle maintenance needed, tool defects or maintenance, document errors, shop problems or training deficiencies should all be reported on this form. It is imperative that this form is submitted as soon as possible so follow up and correction of an issue can be completed in a timely manner.

If you find a product with no label or SDS available, please fill out this form and submit it to the office.

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# WHMIS Checklist – BE PREPARED!

Supplier Labels – Do You Know?	Safe Use – Do You know?
<ul> <li>What each hazard symbol means?</li> <li>The main hazards of each product that you wo with?</li> <li>What the label tells you about safety precautio</li> <li>What first aid instructions are included?</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>☐ The proper procedures for storing the chemical?</li> <li>☐ The proper procedures for using the chemical?</li> <li>☐ The proper way to dispose of the chemical?</li> </ul>
Workplace Labels – If chemical products are transferred to another container for use, does the new label have  ☐ The product name? ☐ Instructions for safe use? ☐ A reference to the MSDS for more information?	<ul> <li>□ That a controlled product that arrives in your workplace without a proper label or MSDS mus be stored, and NOT used?</li> <li>■ MSDSs – Do You Know?</li> <li>□ Where the MSDSs are located in the workplace?</li> <li>□ How to find the safety information you need from a MSDS?</li> <li>□ Who to ask if you need more information?</li> </ul>
Emergency Procedures — Do you known How to sound the alarm?  ☐ How to get out safely?  ☐ Location of first aid equipment?  ☐ Emergency phone numbers?  ☐ Procedures to follow in case of a leak,	ow what to do if something goes wrong? spill or emissions?