

Globally harmonised system – on the classification and labelling of chemical substances and mixtures

Key information at a glance!



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What does GHS stand for?

GHS stands for **Globally Harmonised System** of the classification and labelling of substances and mixtures, which was adopted in the 1992 United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) (Agenda 21, Sec. 198). In Europe, the GHS is adopted by the CLP Regulation (Classification, Labelling and Packaging) EC No. 1272/2008.

GHS works on a modular design principle, from which the CLP Regulation uses certain modules. Outside the EU, other country-specific transpositions of the GHS apply.

What benefits does GHS/CLP have?



The purpose of GHS is to achieve a unified system for classification and labelling chemical substances and mixtures. This is of major benefit in terms of human and environmental safety. The regulation serves to identify hazardous chemicals and inform their users of their associated dangers. Harmonised with the law governing the transport of hazardous goods, this also facilitates global trade.

What major changes does GHS/CLP bring with it?

There are new hazard pictograms

In contrast to the previously used labelling, the new pictograms are used without additional labelling (e.g. Xn – Harmful).

GHS/CLP pictogram					
Hazard code	Explosive	Extremely/Highly flammable	Oxidising	Compressed gas	Toxic/Very toxic
Symbol in accordance with Annex II of Directive 67/548/EEC	E 	F F+ 	O 		T T+
GHS/CLP pictogram					
Hazard code	Corrosive	STOT: Specific target organ toxicity	Harmful	Dangerous of the aquatic environment	
Symbol in accordance with Annex II of Directive 67/548/EEC	C Xi 	Xn T / T+ 	Xi / Xn 	N 	

Two new hazard pictograms

Two completely new hazard pictograms have been introduced in accordance with GHS/CLP:



Warning about health hazards such as skin irritation or sensitisation, severe eye irritation or information that a product is harmful when swallowed.



Warning about serious health hazards.

Two new signal words: warning and danger

Introduction of 2 signal words

A signal word provides information on the relative severity of hazard and alerts the user to the potential hazards of the product:

- **Danger:** for severe hazard categories
- **Warning:** for less severe hazard categories

Hazard statements

Previously R phrases → H phrases

A hazard statement is a standardised text assigned to a hazard class and category. It describes the specific property of a hazardous product and – where appropriate – the severity of the hazard.

Safety statements



Previously S phrases → P phrases

A safety statement is a standardised text that describes the recommended measures to be taken in order to prevent/minimise possible adverse effects following exposure to a hazardous product.



How does schülke implement GHS/CLP?

As one of the leading companies in the industry, schülke will implement the GHS/CLP system as soon as possible. schülke will provide the products concerned with GHS/CLP labelling in the coming months. From a production point of view, schülke will have relabelled all relevant products by the 1st of June 2015.

The CLP regulation provides for a transitional period of up to 2 years. In this period, products are able to be delivered to customers and users in accordance with either the present labelling directives or in accordance with CLP. This transitional period is necessary to allow traders to use up their stock.

What changes are there for you as the customer?

In the course of the new classification of substances and mixtures, the labelling of some schülke products may also change. The reason for this is different criteria concerning the labelling specifications according to GHS/CLP.

Legislation does not require that medicinal products and cosmetics have to be labelled according to GHS/CLP. The respective mandatory labelling requirements apply for these groups of products.

The good news for you as the customer!

By implementing the GHS/CLP regulation, nothing will change as far as the excellent quality and safe use of schülke products are concerned! The new labelling will be implemented in accordance with legal requirements. Only from 01.06.2017, will it no longer be allowed to deliver products with the current labelling to customers and users. There is, therefore, ample time!

Visit www.ghs-schuelke.com for more information

Please contact us if you have any further questions:

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