

## Things to do next

Check your product's label: does it contain the pictograms and the hazard and precautionary statements? If not, you can get help:

- Safety Data Sheet: SDS Section 2 contains C&L information
- ECHA website
- Your industry association
- Your National CLP helpdesk: you can obtain information in your language
- ECHA C&L Inventory: you will learn how a substance has been classified by other companies and if it has a harmonised classification
- Apply the harmonised classification for substances
- Use your supplier's classification and labelling if you do not change the composition of the chemicals
- Package and label your mixture in accordance with the CLP Regulation

More information on the CLP Regulation at:

» [echa.europa.eu/regulations/clp](http://echa.europa.eu/regulations/clp)

Legal terminology and key information is provided in 23 EU languages. You can use ECHA-term online service to download the hazard and precautionary statements for the labels.

» <http://echa.cdt.europa.eu>

Find answers to frequently asked questions :

» <http://echa.europa.eu/support/qa-support/qa>

### FOR SMES

The classification, labelling and packaging of hazardous chemicals in the EU is based on a worldwide agreed system. It facilitates international trade and ensures consistent communication of chemical hazards leading to better health, safety and care for the environment. Complying with a single set of rules worldwide builds public trust in the safe use of chemicals.

Start at:

» <http://echa.europa.eu/sme>

# Classifying and labelling chemicals

A brief guide to the classification and labelling of chemicals in the EU



# The classification, labelling and packaging of chemicals

If your company supplies hazardous chemicals within the EU, you have to label them in accordance with the Classification Packaging and Labelling (CLP) Regulation. The requirements of the CLP Regulation ensure that the hazards presented by chemicals are clearly communicated to workers and consumers in the European Union through appropriate classification and labelling.

» <http://echa.europa.eu/regulations/clp>

## THE CHEMICAL LABEL SHOWS

- the chemical's name and product identifier;
- the suppliers' name, address and phone number;
- the quantity of chemicals in the package;
- hazard pictograms, signal words, hazard and precautionary statements.

» <http://echa.europa.eu/regulations/clp/labelling>

## DECIDE ON THE CLASSIFICATION AND LABELLING

If your chemicals meet the criteria for classification as hazardous, you must label them. You need to consider all hazard classes and differentiations and decide on the appropriate classification for physical, health or environmental hazards. After making this decision, you must select the correct labelling elements.

» <http://echa.europa.eu/support/mixture-classification/decide-on-classification-and-labelling>

## The CLP pictograms



Flammable - serious fires if exposed to sparks, flames, heat



Toxic to aquatic organisms  
Long-term damage to the ecosystem



Causes very serious long-term health effects



Causes skin and eye burns  
Destruction of metal



Life-threatening even in small amounts and brief exposure



Skin and eye irritation  
Adverse health effects  
Damage to the ozone layer



Explosive - sensitive to fire, heat, vibration or friction



Causes or intensifies fire  
Increases fire hazard



Container explodes if heated  
Very cold liquid burns when touched

» <http://echa.europa.eu/chemicals-in-our-life/clp-pictograms>

## USE OF HARMONISED CLASSIFICATION AND LABELLING

Certain substances have a harmonised classification and labelling (C&L) to ensure that risks are appropriately managed. The use of harmonised classification and labelling is mandatory. The list of hazardous substances for which a harmonised C&L exists is continuously updated.

» <http://echa.europa.eu/regulations/clp/harmonised-classification-and-labelling>

## NOTIFY TO ECHA THE CLASSIFICATION OF YOUR CHEMICALS

If you place a hazardous substance on the market, you must notify ECHA of its classification and labelling within one month. For importers, the month is counted from the day when a substance, on its own or contained in a mixture, is physically brought into the EU.

» <http://echa.europa.eu/regulations/clp/cl-inventory/notification-to-the-cl-inventory>

## AGREE WITH OTHER COMPANIES ON THE C&L OF YOUR SUBSTANCES

If the same substance is classified in different ways, you should come to an agreement with other companies. The Classification & Labelling Platform is a discussion forum which allows you to discuss the classification and labelling of your substances and reach agreement on the appropriate classification.

» <http://echa.europa.eu/information-on-chemicals/cl-inventory/cl-platform>

## CHECK THE SAFETY DATA SHEETS

Safety data sheets (SDS) are the main tool for ensuring that suppliers communicate enough information along the supply chain to allow safe use of their substances and mixtures.

» <http://echa.europa.eu/regulations/reach/safety-data-sheets>

**CLP 2015:  
ACT NOW!**

