

New Classification and Labelling Regulations in Europe come into force 1st December 2010

With the implementation in Europe of the United Nations (UN) Global Harmonised System (GHS)¹ for classifying hazardous chemicals, Arizona Chemical like all other chemical companies in the EU must change its manner of describing and communicating the hazardous nature of its products. Europe implements the UN GHS with the "CLP" Regulation 1272/2008² and comes into force on 1st December 2010. From that date, substances that are classified as hazardous must be labelled according to the UN scheme with new symbols, Hazard statements and Precautionary statements. These replace the more familiar scheme of R- and S-phrases. The new symbols are in the form of a red bordered diamond with a black symbol on a white background (replacing the orange square with black symbol). It must be emphasised that in some cases a classification according to the old European scheme does not match the classification scheme of the new CLP. The equivalent H- & P- statements appear more severe than the R- & S-phrases. It should also be noted that the products and their hazardous nature have not changed – only the way they have been classified and labelled.

In addition to the new labels that will appear on packages, new MSDS's are being generated with all the new compliant information.

Hazardous mixtures need not be classified according to the new CLP scheme until 2015, and may continue to be classified and labelled according to the old EU scheme until then. Arizona Chemical will however make the transition with these products in due course.

These regulations do not apply to un-classified substances and mixtures, and legally an MSDS is not required. However, Arizona Chemical will continue with its practice of Good Product Stewardship Practice and produce MSDS's for all products regardless of classification. However, those unclassified products' MSDS's will not be revised immediately, but will be revised in due course.

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Almere, 22 November 2010

¹ UN GHS explained http://www.unece.org/trans/danger/publi/ghs/ghs_rev01/01files_e.html

² OJ L353, 31.12.2008 p1 *European Regulation 1272/2008 on the classification, labelling and packaging of substances and mixtures*,