

Simple steps to GHS compliance

GHS COMPLIANCE

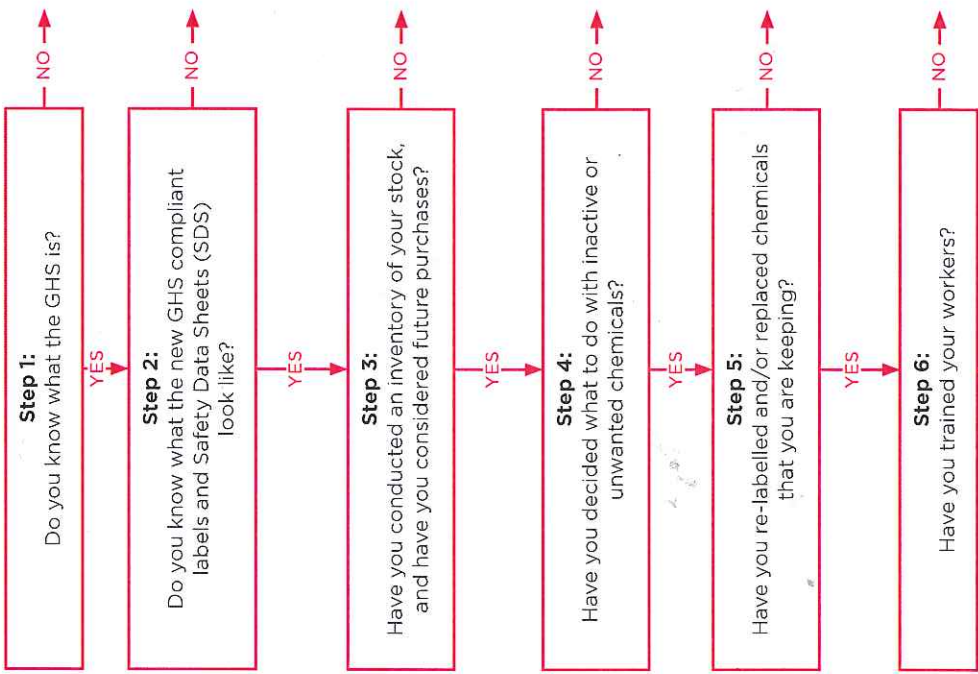
Business phase - compliant

Take phase - compliant

Ons phase - compliant

Selling and import phase - compliant

Training phase - compliant



- Visit safework.nsw.gov.au and review Chapter 7 of the WHS Regulation. You will also find information about the relevant Codes of Practice, and guidance material.
- The GHS uses nine standard symbols to show how chemicals are classified, with one of two word signal statements – danger or warning. See page 2 of this factsheet.
- New labels include simpler hazard and precautionary statements. See page 6 of this factsheet.
- The new Safety Data Sheet (SDS) uses clearer language under 16 universal headings. See page 7 of this factsheet for an example.
- Conduct an inventory of your chemicals and identify which have GHS compliant and non-compliant labels and SDS.
- If your labels and SDS match the label sample and SDS sample on pages 6 and 7 of this factsheet, they are GHS ready.
- Identify inactive or unwanted chemicals.
- Look for GHS compliant products before making future purchases, or consider buying smaller quantities before 31 December 2016, to avoid having to re-label after that date.
- Make sure the chemicals you keep are correctly labelled, and obtain a new SDS.
- Alternatively, you can safely dispose of them, recycle them or sell them. You should contact an authorised chemical waste collector or recycler such as the local council, ChemClear, DrumMUSTER (for agricultural), or an Environment Protection Authority (EPA) licenced waste transporter. Visit epa.nsw.gov.au
- Contact the manufacturer/supplier/parent company to obtain the new label and SDS for each chemical.
- Update your systems, including the tracking of GHS compliant SDS versus the old SDS.
- If the original manufacturer/supplier is not contactable, contact the parent company or search for an alternate company that supplies a similar product.
- Look at the new SDS for each of your chemicals and identify any new hazards. A new SDS may involve changes to engineering controls and personal protective equipment (PPE), among other things.
- Train your workers on the new labels and SDS.
- You can find more information regarding the changes to labels and SDS in the Codes of Practice.

Top tips

- Consumer products being used in the workplace do not need to be GHS ready if the product has its original label and is being used in a way that is similar to household use.
- There is no change for placards used for chemicals in transit, and the Australian Dangerous Goods Code (ADG Code) still applies.
- There are exceptions for small containers that need re-labelling, where limited space is available to display information. See Chapter 7 of the WHS Regulation for more information.