

# Global Harmonized System GHS

What is GHS?

A System of Communication of Chemical Hazards that can be used anywhere.  
Adopted by the UN.

1. Rules for Classifying the hazards of Chemicals.

2. Hazard Communication tools

- Safety Data Sheets (SDS)

- Content for labels & SDS

\* Hazard & precautionary statements

\* Symbols (pictograms - 8 different)

\* Signal words



## Scope of GHS

- Industrial Chemicals
- Consumer Chemicals
- Pesticides
- Ag Chemicals
- Pharmaceuticals
- Education

# Key Terms

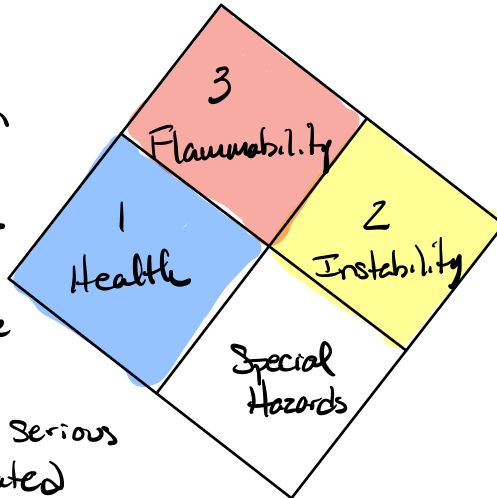
- SDS - Safety Data Sheet. 16 sections in a set order with a set of minimum info.
- Labels - Standardized Elements:
  - Chemical identity
  - Hazard statements
  - Signal word
  - Pictogram
  - Precautionary statements
- Hazard Group - Health, physical, Environmental
- Hazard Class - Describes the different types of hazards
  - Category - Describes the Sub-section of Class.
    - 1 most Hazardous
    - 2
    - 3
    - 4
    - ↓
    - Least
  - Example - Self-Reactives have 7 categories. Each category has Rules that define it. Rules numbered with #1 being the most Hazardous.

- Hazard Statement - Each category of a Class has a specific hazard statement(s). The hazard statement must be on the label & in the SDS.
- Precautionary Statement - Standardized statements that describe the steps to be taken to reduce or eliminate adverse effects from exposure.
- Signal Word - There are only 2
  - Danger
  - Warning
  - No Signal Word
- Pictogram - A visual representation of the type of hazard. 8 pictograms. more than 1 pictogram may be used for a chemical

# National Fire Protection Standard (NFPA)

## Health

- 0 - Hazard no greater than ordinary material
- 1 - may cause irritation
- 2 - Intense, prolonged exposure may cause incapacitation
- 3 - Exposure can cause serious injury even if treated
- 4 - Exposure may cause death  
most Hazardous



## GHS System

- Hazard Class
- 1 most Hazardous
  - 2 ↑
  - 3 ↑
  - 4 least Hazardous

Understanding Labeling

Understanding info contained in SDS

Understanding How to obtain SDS