Sixty Seconds to Safer Science - Grandfathered Labels

Effective May 25, 2012, OSHA's revised HazCom Standard (29CFR1910.1200) is aligned with the U.N. Globally Harmonized System or GHS. Two major changes require use of new labeling elements and a standardized format for Safety Data Sheets. Specific requirements will be phased-in December 1, 2013 through June 1, 2016.

New labeling requirements for workplace hazardous chemicals state that containers must be marked with:

- Product identifier
- Signal word
- Hazard statement(s)
- Pictogram(s)
- Precautionary statement(s)
- Name, address & telephone number of the source party

However, older commercial labels on chemicals currently in inventories will not have to be updated – grandfathered! The requirement for labeling falls on chemical manufacturers and importers and, unless you put the chemical in a secondary container, no labeling revision is required. Additional information from OSHA.

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