

WHMIS Program Update

Due to recent amendments to the Hazardous Products Regulations (HPR), updates have been made to the WHMIS program. Suppliers, employers, and workers were given a three year transition period (ending December 14, 2025) to bring product classifications, safety data sheets, and labels into compliance with these amendments.



BENEFITS

Changes resulting from the HPR amendments will better protect workers by requiring more comprehensive and detailed health and safety information on product labels and safety data sheets. This information will enable workers to better protect themselves against the hazards posed by products that they use and handle in their workplaces.

KEY CLASSIFICATION CHANGES

- New physical hazard class: **Chemicals Under Pressure**.
- Name change of physical hazard class from Flammable Aerosols to “**Aerosols**”.
- New hazard category for non-flammable aerosols (Aerosols – **Category 3**).
- Flammable Gases Category 1 split into **Categories 1A** and **1B**.
 - Pyrophoric gases included in Flammable Gases – **Category 1A** instead of its own hazard class
 - Chemically Unstable Gases included in Flammable Gases – **Category 1A**
- Mixtures classified in a health hazard class that includes both categories and subcategories may be classified in an applicable subcategory if sufficient data is available.
- Water-activated toxicants classification criteria now based on the *acute inhalation toxicity of the substance or mixture as sold or imported*.
- Reproductive Toxicity – Category 2 classification criteria has been corrected to *specify that adverse effects observed in humans or animals must not be considered as a secondary non-specific consequence of other toxic effects*.

HOW DOES THIS AFFECT ME?

In most workplaces, the most notable impact will be seen in the changes to the **flammable gases** class and the new class of **chemicals under pressure**. If affected by class or category changes, SDS published prior to the update must be updated. Ensure any paper SDS copies are replaced. SDS available through online databases (Chemwatch) will be updated automatically. References to WHMIS 2015 will now refer to the former regulations, current regulations will be referred to as “**WHMIS**”.

WHMIS training programs provided by Health & Safety are being updated to include these changes in classifications. If your WHMIS training program requires updating, please contact Health & Safety.

Remember! WHMIS training is required to be renewed every 3 years!

RESOURCES

For more information, visit the websites below:

Health Canada

<https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/environmental-workplace-health/occupational-health-safety/workplace-hazardous-materials-information-system/amendments-hazardous-products-regulations.html>

Canadian Centre for Occupational Health and Safety (CCOHS)

https://www.ccohs.ca/oshanswers/chemicals/whmis_ghs/program.html

https://www.ccohs.ca/oshanswers/chemicals/whmis_ghs/hazard_classes.html



Have questions?

Contact Health & Safety

Ph: (306) 337-2370

Email: health.safety@uregina.ca

Website: [Health & Safety](#)

Need to report an [Incident/Near Miss/Safety Concern](#)?

Notify your supervisor and fill out the online form