



Australian Government
Comcare



Are you
GHS
ready?

Chemicals, labels and their accompanying Safety Data Sheets (SDS) are going through some significant changes. The new system known as the *Globally Harmonized System of Classifying and Labelling of Chemicals* (GHS) will:

- > standardise systems across countries
- > enhance protection of humans and the environment
- > be easier to read and understand.

So what's new?

GHS SYMBOLS AND MEANINGS



Acute toxicity via oral, dermal or inhalation



Oxidising substances



Aspiratory or respiratory hazard, carcinogenicity, mutagenicity



Explosives, self-reactive substances, organic peroxides



Hazardous to the environment



Compressed, liquefied or dissolved gases



Flammable, pyrophoric, self-heating substances; water reactive



Corrosive, skin damage, eye damage



May cause immediate health effect – skin, eye, respiratory

THE NEW LABELS WILL NOW HAVE:

A **Signal word**: This indicates the severity of the hazard. **Warning** is used for less severe hazards while **Danger** means severe hazards.

A **Pictogram**: A pictogram is a symbol that is intended to quickly convey special information about the hazards of chemicals. It is a black symbol on a white background within a red diamond.

A **Hazard Statement**: This brief and to-the-point message describes the nature of the hazard, such as 'Fatal if swallowed'.

A **Precautionary Statement**: Here's where you'll learn how to respond in case of exposure and/or how to store the chemical properly.

Bringing it all together a GHS Label may look like this:

Aromasol — Refer to Safety Data Sheet before use.

Contains:
Aromatic hydrocarbons 95%v/v
Toxicole 5%v/v

2.5 L

DANGER

Highly flammable liquid and vapour
Toxic if swallowed
Causes skin irritation
May cause cancer
May be fatal if swallowed and enters airways

IF ON SKIN (or hair): Take off contaminated clothing and wash before re-use. Rinse skin using plenty of soap and water.
IF EXPOSED OR CONCERNED: Get medical advice/attention.
IF SWALLOWED: Immediately call a POISON CENTRE or doctor/physician. Do NOT induce vomiting.
Store locked up in a well-ventilated place.
Keep cool.
Dispose of contents/container in accordance with local regulations.

In case of fire: use powder for extinction. Keep away from sparks and open flames—No smoking. Keep container tightly closed. Ground/bond container and receiving equipment. Take precautionary measure against static discharge. Wear protective gloves and eye and face protection. Wash hands thoroughly after handling. Do not eat, drink or smoke when using this product.

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Product Identifier

Identity and proportion of each ingredient

Signal Word

Hazard Statements

Pictograms

Precautionary Statements

Contact details of Australian Manufacturer or Importer