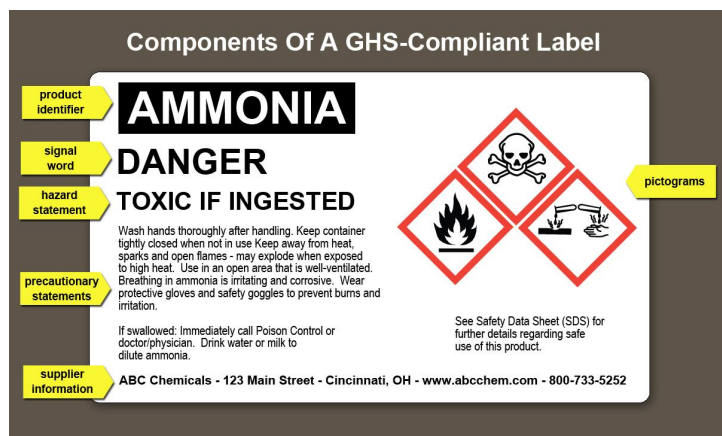


In 2014, the OSHA regulations for the Hazard Communication Standard (HAZCOM) were revised to become consistent with the United Nations Globally Harmonized System (GHS). The regulations now require pictograms on labels to alert users of the chemical hazards to which they may be exposed.

In addition to pictograms, labels must include the following information:

- Product identifier
- Signal word
- Hazard statement(s)
- Precautionary statement(s)
- Name, address and telephone number of the manufacturer, importer or other responsible party

Signal words are used to indicate the relative level of severity and to alert people to a potential hazard on the label. "Danger" is used for more severe hazards, while "Warning" is used for the less severe.



Sample label










The accompanying table lists the Hazard Communication Standard pictograms along with the corresponding hazards. These afford the user immediate recognition of hazards.

Another notable change is the Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS). MSDSs are now simply called Safety Data Sheets (SDS). It is important to note that OSHA requires employers to make SDSs available either as hard copies or electronic facsimiles.

SDSs for hazardous chemicals used at USC are available through MSDSonline. Researchers may access the vast library of documents for immediate download by clicking the [SDS link](#) at the EH&S home page.

## What I Need to Know...

- Investigate potential hazards of a chemical by consulting the chemical's SDS
- Select chemicals that are less hazardous
- Research best practices; utilize engineering and administrative controls
- Always wear appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) when handling hazardous chemicals or materials

<b>Health Hazard</b>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Carcinogen</li> <li>• Mutagenicity</li> <li>• Reproductive Toxicity</li> <li>• Respiratory Sensitizer</li> <li>• Target Organ Toxicity</li> <li>• Aspiration Toxicity</li> </ul>	<b>Flame</b>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Flammables</li> <li>• Pyrophorics</li> <li>• Self-Heating</li> <li>• Emits Flammable Gas</li> <li>• Self-Reactives</li> <li>• Organic Peroxides</li> </ul>	<b>Exclamation Mark</b>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Irritant (skin and eye)</li> <li>• Skin Sensitizer</li> <li>• Acute Toxicity (harmful)</li> <li>• Narcotic Effects</li> <li>• Respiratory Tract Irritant</li> <li>• Hazardous to Ozone Layer (Non-Mandatory)</li> </ul>
<b>Gas Cylinder</b>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gases Under Pressure</li> </ul>	<b>Corrosion</b>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Skin Corrosion/ Burns</li> <li>• Eye Damage</li> <li>• Corrosive to Metals</li> </ul>	<b>Exploding Bomb</b>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Explosives</li> <li>• Self-Reactives</li> <li>• Organic Peroxides</li> </ul>
<b>Flame Over Circle</b>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Oxidizers</li> </ul>	<b>Environment (Non-Mandatory)</b>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Aquatic Toxicity</li> </ul>	<b>Skull and Crossbones</b>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Acute Toxicity (fatal or toxic)</li> </ul>

## Reference

[OSHA Hazard Communication Standard Pictogram](#)