

Laboratory Safety Labeling and Transfer of Chemicals

Permanent Container Labels

Employers must ensure that no worker uses, stores, or allows any other person to use or store any hazardous substance in a laboratory if the container (including bags, barrels, bottles, boxes, cans, cylinders, drums and reaction vessels) does not meet the following labeling requirements in OSHA's Hazard Communication standard [29 CFR 1910.1200(f)(1)]:

- The identity of the chemical and appropriate hazard warnings must be shown on the label.
- The hazard warning must provide users with an immediate understanding of the primary health and/or physical hazard(s) of the hazardous chemical through the use of words, pictures, symbols, or any combination of these elements.
- The name and address of the manufacturer, importer or other responsible party must be included on the label.
- The hazard label message must be legible, permanently displayed and written in English.

Portable (Secondary) Container Labels

Often, laboratory operations require transferring chemicals from the original labeled container into a secondary container (e.g., beaker, flask, or bottle). Portable containers must comply with the labeling requirements listed above if any of the following events occur:

- The material is not used within the work shift of the individual who makes the transfer.
- The worker who made the transfer leaves the work area.
- The container is moved to another work area and is no longer in the possession of the worker who filled the container.

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The identity of the chemical and appropriate hazard warnings must be shown on the label.

For assistance, contact us. We can help. It's confidential.



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- Labels on portable containers are not required if the worker who made the transfer uses all of the contents during the work shift.

When a secondary container is used for longer than one shift or does not meet the requirements outlined in the Permanent Container Labels section, above, a label needs to be applied to the secondary container. This label must contain two key pieces of information: the identity of the hazardous chemical(s) in the container (e.g., chemical name) and the hazards present. There are many ways to communicate this hazard information. Employers should select a system that will work for each location.

Replacement Container Label

The existing label on a container entering the workplace from a supplier must not be removed, altered or defaced. If a chemical container's original label must be replaced, the new label must contain the same information as the original. Only use labels, ink and markings that are not soluble in the liquid content of the container.

The existing label on a container entering the workplace from a supplier must not be removed, altered or defaced.

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SAFETY



GHS Container Labels

Your objective is to understand the importance of container labeling. If you handle any chemical in the workplace your ability to identify the product is critical to your safety. It is also vital that everyone else knows what is in the container.

You should have noticed the OSHA GHS format labels now appear on most products.

Before you transfer any product from its original container to a secondary container – know what you are working with. Read the Safety Data Sheet, follow the handling instructions, wear the required Personal Protective Equipment.

What is a Secondary Container?

When you transfer a chemical from its original container to another container, the container you transfer it into is called a "secondary container" or "point of use" container.

How do you transfer label information when the product is transferred to a secondary container?

- You can print out GHS format secondary container labels from the AHN SDS Online program.

GHS Label elements


ISOBUTYL ALCOHOL

CAS Number: 78-83-1
DOT Number: UN 112

DANGER

Highly flammable liquid and vapor. Causes serious eye damage. May cause drowsiness and dizziness.

Keep away from heat/sparks/open flames/hot surfaces. No smoking. Avoid breathing fumes/mist/vapors/spray. Wear protective gloves/protective clothing/eye protection/face protection. **IF IN EYES:** Rinse cautiously with water for several minutes. Remove contact lenses if present. Continue rinsing.

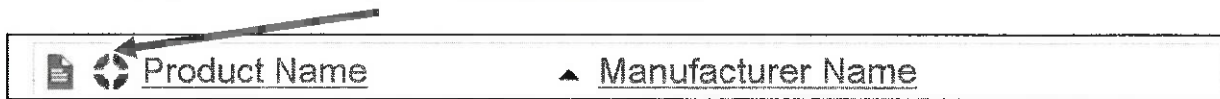
Fill Weight: 123.45 lbs. Lot No.: 6305051700
Gross Weight: 145.60 lbs. 
Fill Date: 10/9/2013 [See SDS for further information](#)

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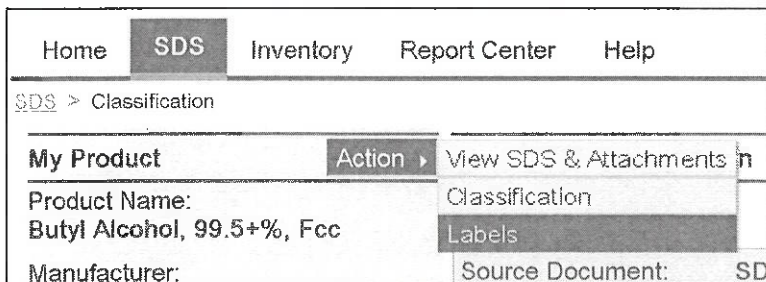
- ① Product name
- ② Signal word
- ③ Hazard statement
- ④ Precautionary statement
- ⑤ Supplier information
- ⑥ Pictograms

GHS Labels can be printed through the SDS Online program

From your search results page look for this symbol. [Click on the symbol](#)



and then click on Action then Labels



Select your GHS label options. Then Print your labels on the appropriate format blank label sheet. If you have any questions contact the Safety office at 412.359.4072

