

## HSE Alert

### Workplace Chemical Labeling



#### BSEE Offshore Chemical Inspections

BSEE has recently been focusing inspections on chemical hazard communication. In particular, BSEE has inspected the chemical labels and SDSs for chemical day tanks on offshore platforms.

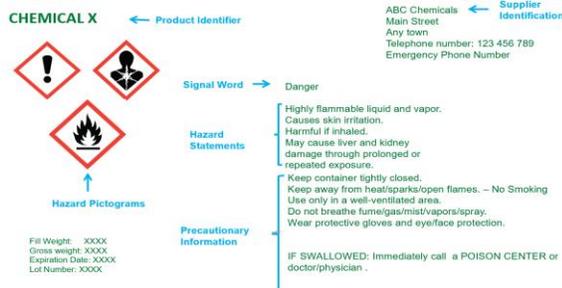
Also note that Hazard Communication has been consistently ranked at the top in the OSHA's Most Frequently Cited Standards. Failure to properly label each hazardous chemical container is consistently one of the top violated sections cited of the standard.

#### Proper workplace chemical labeling

Each container of hazardous chemicals in the workplace should be labeled, tagged or marked according to the labeling elements specified in the [OSHA Hazard Communication Standard](#). OSHA defines container as any **bag, barrel, bottle, box, can, cylinder, drum, reaction vessel, storage tank, or the like that contains a hazardous chemical**. Pipes or piping systems, engines, fuel tanks or other operating system in a vehicle are not considered to be containers under the Standard.

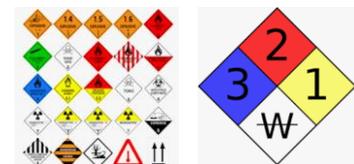
#### Label elements shall include:

- (1) Product identifier
- (2) Signal word
- (3) Hazard statement(s)
- (4) Pictograms(s)
- (5) Precautionary statement(s)
- (6) Manufacturer/supplier information



Labels must be **legible, written in English**, but can also include alternate languages where employees and contractors speak other languages. Shipped chemical containers must also include the name and address of the manufacturer, importer or distributor. The product name and manufacturer on the label, chemical inventory list, and SDS must be identical.

Workplace labels CANNOT be replaced by the labels used for transportation of dangerous goods or NFPA diamond.



#### What can you do to help with compliance?

- Conduct routine (quarterly) Hazard Communication Self-Verifications
- Check chemical labels as part of the safety observation program and report missing, faded and falling-off labels. Use Chemwatch "Labels" function to print out label replacements, if needed.

#### Questions?

Refer to the [GoM Hazard Communication Policy](#) or contact the HSE Site Advisor or GoM Industrial Hygiene Team