



# Gulf Coast Chapter Newsletter

January 22, 2015

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Laws and regulations throughout the world are different enough to require multiple labels and safety data sheets for the same product both within the U.S. and international trade. It is estimated that about 42 to 45 million workers are exposed to one or more chemical hazards in the workplace. Furthermore, an estimated 650,000 existing chemical materials exist and hundreds of new chemicals are introduced to the workplace annually. The worldwide use of chemicals has resulted in regulations specific to each country and sectors within that country (e.g., workplace, agriculture, transportation, production, consumer products). Thus, efforts began over 20 years ago to standardize labeling and safety data sheets throughout the world.

*Article continued on page 2*

### Mailing Address

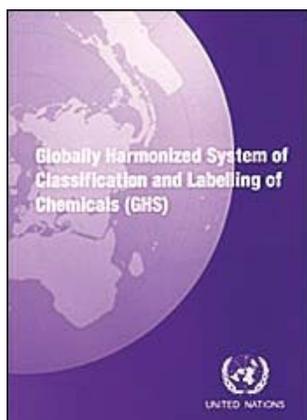
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Deer Park, TX 77536

**ASSE/AIHA PDC & Exhibitor's Event is scheduled for March 5 at the Houston Area Safety Council. For more information visit the website**

<http://gulfoast.asse.org/event-registration/?ec=47>

## Globally Harmonized System Article Continued

The United Nations, at its 'Earth Summit' in 1992, issued a mandate for a globally harmonized classification and compatible labeling system be available, if feasible, by the year 2000. The United Nations recognized that an internationally harmonized approach would provide foundations for all countries to develop national programs to ensure safe use of chemicals. The United Nations published what is now called the "Purple Book" that describes the Globally Harmonized System (GHS) of Classification and Labeling of Chemicals (Figure 1).



**FIGURE 1**  
GHS ("Purple Book")

### HAZCOM 2012

OSHA's hazard communication standard (HCS), 29 CFR 1910.1200, was first promulgated in 1983. This standard was designed to ensure that employers provide information to employees about hazardous chemicals and provide protective measures to potential users of the product (e.g., personal protective equipment, storage information, emergency response, etc.) through a comprehensive hazard communication program. The standard was a performance-oriented standard, which did not specify the format for material safety data sheets (MSDS) and labels.

Since 2000, OSHA has been attempting to modify its existing hazard communication standards (29 CFR 1910.1200) by adopting certain annexes of the GHS. In September of 2009, OSHA published a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking to update its hazard communication standard and held public hearings in March of 2010. The final standard promulgated by OSHA was published in the Federal Register on March 26, 2012, and this final rule became effective on May 25, 2012. OSHA's revised hazard communication standard has been referred to as HazCom 2012 and affects nearly five million workplaces in the U.S.

The adopted annexes of GHS that OSHA adopted established new requirements for:

- Safety Data Sheets (SDS), formerly known as material safety data sheets (MSDS)
- Classifying chemicals
- Labeling
- Symbols for hazards

Some aspects of the existing HCS standard has not changed. Employee training, preparation of a chemical inventory, and development of a written program are still required. However, training programs must be updated to include GHS hazard categories and label elements. Chemical inventories may need to be updated as hazard classifications may change. Written programs may also need updating to outline compliance with HazCom 2012.

### SAFETY DATA SHEETS (SDS)

The HCS requires chemical manufacturers, distributors, or importers to provide Safety Data Sheets (SDSs), formerly known as Material Safety Data Sheets or MSDS, to communicate the hazards of hazardous chemical products. Employers must ensure that SDSs are readily accessible to employees. As of June 1, 2015, the HCS will require new SDSs to be in a uniform format. The SDS must include the section numbers, headings, and associated information under the respective headings. This uniform format is summarized in Figure 2.

### LABEL ELEMENTS

The labeling system provides more specific information on the hazards of the chemicals as well as providing a pictogram of the hazard. The sample label in Figure 3 shows the type of information that will be required on the new labeling system. The HCS now requires the following elements on labels of hazardous chemicals.

- **Name, Address, and Telephone Number** of the chemical manufacturer, importer, or other responsible party.
- **Product Identifier** is how the hazardous chemical is identified. This may include, but is not limited to, the chemical name, code number, or batch number. The same product identifier must be on both the label and in Section 1 of the SDS.
- **Signal Words** are used to indicate the relative level of severity of the hazard and alert the reader to a potential hazard on the label. There are only two words used as signal words, "Danger" and "Warning." Within a specific hazard class, "Danger" is used for the more severe hazards and "Warning" is used for the less severe hazards. There will only be one signal word on the label regardless of how many hazards a chemical may have. If one of the hazards warrants a "Danger" signal word and another warrants the signal word "Warning," then only "Danger" should appear on the label.

# Globally Harmonized System Article Continued

**FIGURE 2**  
**SAFETY DATA SHEET FORMAT**

- Section 1:** Identification includes product identifier, manufacturer or distributor name, address, phone number, emergency phone number, recommended use, restrictions on use.
- Section 2:** Hazard(s) Identification includes the hazards regarding the chemical and the appropriate warning information associated with those hazards.
- Section 3:** Composition/Information on Ingredients includes information on chemical ingredient(s) contained in the product, including impurities and stabilizing additives. This section includes information on substances, mixtures, and all chemicals where a trade secret is claimed.
- Section 4:** First-Aid Measures includes necessary first-aid instructions by relevant routes of exposure, important systems or effects (and any acute or delayed symptoms), and recommendations for immediate medical care and special treatment.
- Section 5:** Fire-Fighting Measures provide recommendations for suitable extinguishing techniques and equipment, information about extinguishing equipment that is not appropriate for a particular situation, advice on specific hazards that develop from the chemical during the fire and any hazardous combustion products when the chemical burns, and recommendations for special protective equipment or precautions for firefighters.
- Section 6:** Accidental Release Measures provide recommendations on the appropriate response to spills, leaks, or releases, including containment and cleanup practices to prevent or minimize exposure to people, properties, or the environment.
- Section 7:** Handling and Storage provide guidance on the safe handling practices and conditions for safe storage of chemicals.
- Section 8:** Exposure Controls/Personal Protection indicate the exposure limits, engineering controls, and personal protective equipment (PPE) that can be used to minimize worker exposure.
- Section 9:** Physical and Chemical Properties identify the chemical's characteristics (e.g., appearance, upper/lower flammability limit, odor, vapor pressure, odor threshold, vapor density, pH, flashpoint, relative density, melting point/freezing point, evaporation rate, solubility, boiling point, auto-ignition temperature, etc.).
- Section 10:** Stability and Reactivity describe the reactivity hazards and chemical stability information. The section is broken into three parts: reactivity, chemical stability, and other.
- Section 11:** Toxicological Information provides information about the health effects such as acute and chronic effects, related symptoms, routes of exposure, and numerical measures of toxicity.
- Section 12:** Ecological Information (non-mandatory)\*
- Section 13:** Disposal Considerations (non-mandatory)\*
- Section 14:** Transport Information (non-mandatory)\*
- Section 15:** Regulatory Information (non-mandatory)\*
- Section 16:** Other Information includes when the SDS was prepared or the date of last revision.

\*Note: Since other agencies regulate this information, OSHA will not be enforcing Sections 12 through 15 (29 CFR 1910.1200[g][2]). Source: OSHA

**FIGURE 3**  
**SAMPLE LABEL**

**PRODUCT IDENTIFIER**

CODE  
Product Name

**SUPPLIER IDENTIFICATION**

Company Name  
Street Address  
City, State  
Postal Code  
Emergency Phone Number

**PRECAUTIONARY STATEMENTS**

Keep container tightly closed. Store in cool, well-ventilated place that is locked. Keep away from heat/sparks/open flame. No smoking. Only use non-sparking tools. Use explosion-proof electrical equipment. Take precautionary measures against static discharge. Ground and bond container and receiving equipment. Do not breathe vapors. Wear protective gloves. Do not eat, drink or smoke when using this product. Wash hands thoroughly after handling. Dispose of in accordance with local, regional, national, international regulations as specified.

**In Case of Fires** use dry chemical (BC) or carbon dioxide (CO2) fire extinguisher to extinguish.

**FIRST AID**

If exposed, call Poison Control Center. If on skin (on hair), remove immediately any contaminated clothing. Rinse skin with water.

**HAZARD PICTOGRAMS**



**SIGNAL WORD**

Danger

**HAZARD STATEMENT**

Highly flammable liquid and vapor. May cause liver and kidney damage.

**SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION**

Directions for use \_\_\_\_\_

Fill weight: \_\_\_\_\_

Gross weight: \_\_\_\_\_

Fill date: \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Globally Harmonized System Article Continued

• **Hazard Statements** describe recommended measures that should be taken to minimize or prevent adverse effects resulting from exposure to the hazardous chemical or improper storage or handling. All of the applicable hazard statements must appear on the label.

• **Precautionary Statements** describe recommended measures that should be taken to minimize or prevent adverse effects resulting from exposure to the hazardous chemical or improper storage or handling. There are four types of precautionary statements: 1) prevention, 2) response, 3) storage, and 4) disposal.

• **Pictogram(s)** are graphic symbols used to communicate specific information about the hazards of a chemical. On hazardous chemicals being shipped or transported from a manufacturer, importer, or distributor, the required pictograms consist of a red square frame set at a point with a black hazard symbol on a white background, sufficiently wide to be clearly visible. The GHS uses a total of nine pictograms (**Figure 4**); however, OSHA will only enforce the use of eight. The environmental pictogram is not mandatory but may be used to provide additional information.

## EFFECTIVE DATES FOR IMPLEMENTING HAZCOM 2012

The changes to OSHA's hazard communication standard will impact many U.S. businesses. However, the U.S. is not the only country to implement the GHS. In the European Union, the GHS is implemented as a provision of REACH (Registration, Evaluation, and Authorization of Chemicals). Canada is expected to align its existing standards with GHS similar to the U.S. Mexico has not adopted GHS; however, Mexico has adopted a national standard based on the GHS. Japan, China, Russia, Vietnam, Taiwan, and New Zealand have adopted the GHS. Having a globally-harmonized system of classifying and labeling chemicals not only improves chemical hazard communication but also enhances international commerce. The effective dates for implementing OSHA's HAZCOM 2012 standard are summarized in **Figure 5**.

<b>FIGURE 4</b> <b>PICTOGRAMS</b>		
<p><b>Health Hazard</b></p>  <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>	<p><b>Flame</b></p>  <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 Peroxide</li> </ul>	<p><b>Exclamation Mark</b></p>  <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>
<p><b>Gas Cylinder</b></p>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gases Under Pressure</li> </ul>	<p><b>Corrosion</b></p>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Skin Corrosion/Burns</li> <li>• Eye Damage</li> <li>• Corrosive to Metals</li> </ul>	<p><b>Explosion Bomb</b></p>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Explosives</li> <li>• Self-Reactives</li> <li>• Organic Peroxides</li> </ul>
<p><b>Flame Over Circle</b></p>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Oxidizers</li> </ul>	<p><b>Environment</b> (Non-Mandatory)</p>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Aquatic Toxicity</li> </ul>	<p><b>Skull and Crossbones</b></p>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Acute Toxicity (fatal or toxic)</li> </ul>

# Globally Harmonized System Article Continued

**FIGURE 5**  
EFFECTIVE DATES

EFFECTIVE COMPLETION DATE	REQUIREMENT(S)	WHO
December 1, 2013	Train employees on the new label elements and safety data sheet (SDS) format.	Employers
June 1, 2015	Compliance with all modified provisions of this final rule, except:	Chemical manufacturers, importers, distributors and employers
December 1, 2015	The Distributor shall not ship containers labeled by the chemical manufacturer or importer unless it is a GHS label	
June 1, 2016	Update alternative workplace labeling and hazard communication program as necessary, and provide additional employee training for newly identified physical or health hazards.	Employers
Transition Period to the effective completion dates noted above	May comply with either 29 CFR 1910.1200 (the final standard), or the current standard, or both	Chemical manufacturers, importers, distributors, and employers



## REFERENCES

OSHA. (n.d.). Safety & Health Topics Page: Hazard Communication.

Retrieved August 22, 2014, from OSHA:

<https://www.osha.gov/dsg/hazcom/index.html>

United Nations. (2011). Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labeling of Chemicals (GHS), Fourth Revised Edition. New York and Geneva: United Nations.

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President



Safety, Health, and Environmental

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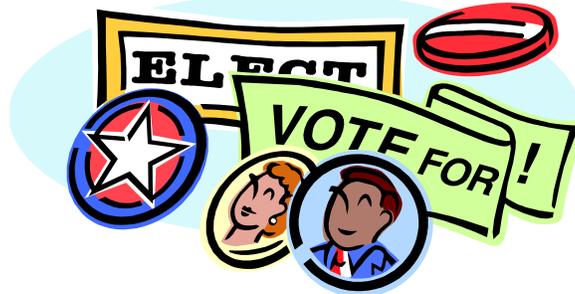
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## Gulf Coast Chapter Elections



The ASSE Gulf Coast Chapter Executive Committee is pleased to announce the start of our election process. At our May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2015 General Chapter meeting, we will be electing the 2015-2016 Gulf Coast Chapter Executive Committee. If you want to be part of Chapter Leadership, please consider running for a position below.

**All elected positions are open and they include:**

1. President / Delegate #1 (President)
2. Sr. Vice President of Communications / Delegate #2 (Sr. VP of Communications)
3. Vice President of Member Services / Delegate #3 (VP of Member Services)
4. Secretary / Delegate #4 (Secretary)
5. Treasurer / Delegate #5 (Treasurer)
6. Program Chair / Delegate #6 (Program Chair)
7. Newsletter Chair / Delegate #7 (Newsletter Chair)

To run under the current Bylaws Qualifications you must be a chapter member in good standing and you must be an ASSE member for a year. If you would like to run for a position, please review the elected positions responsibilities in the [Bylaws](#), complete the [candidate profile](#) and write a brief Bio summarizing your experience in safety.

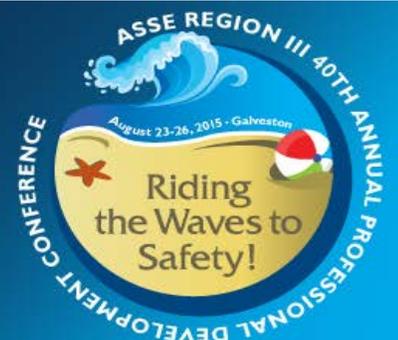
Submit your completed form and Bio to: Carrie Atkins – Immediate Past President and Nominations & Elections Committee Chair [carrie@hasc.com](mailto:carrie@hasc.com). Your name and Bio will be used for publication in the Newsletter and Website. **The Candidate Profile (a.k.a. Nomination Form) and Bio must be submitted to Carrie for review no later than March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2015.**

If you are unsure about running for an elected position, please consider volunteering your time on one of the many committees that bring additional value to our chapter membership. As the largest chapter in ASSE, there are plenty of opportunities to strengthen our Chapter by committing to volunteer to serve on a committee.

## ASSE REGION III 40<sup>th</sup> Annual PDC

Moody Gardens Hotel  
Spa & Conference Center  
Galveston, Texas

AUGUST 23-26, 2015



# Upcoming General and Section Meetings

## Gulf Coast General Chapter Meeting

**Date:** Thursday, February 5, 2015  
**Time:** 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM  
**Location:** Brady's Landing, 8505 Cypress Street, Houston, TX  
**Speakers:** Special Agent Bill Streb - FAA  
**Topic:** Hazardous Material Aviation Transport - Hear the Risks, Accidents, & Requirements  
**Cost:** \$22 (for buffet lunch)  
**Description:** Come and here an interesting talk about hazardous material shipment and types of aviation accidents involving hazardous materials. Special Agent Bill Streb will review the inspection process and enforcement tools that exist in order to keep air passengers and communities safe from hazardous materials.  
**Speaker Bio:** FAA Hazardous Materials Specialist that has been employed by the FAA since 2001. Prior to going to the FAA, Bill was a member of the U.S. Navy and Coast Guard where he was a first responder to various maritime accidents. As a Special Agent with the FAA, Bill conducts inspections and investigates air shippers of hazardous materials, air carriers and passengers to ensure compliance with federal and international air transportation regulations.

## Energy Corridor Section

**Date:** Thursday, February 12, 2015  
**Time:** 11:00 AM – 12:30 PM  
**Location:** Wood Group Mustang, Inc. – Stallion Building, 17325 Park Row Houston, TX 77084  
**Speaker:** Roy Flores  
**Topic:** Behavioral Safety & Effective Communication Skills  
**Cost:** \$15.00 (Includes Lunch)  
**Section Website:** <http://gulfoast.asse.org/energy-corridor-events/>

## Construction Section

**Date:** Friday, January 23, 2015  
**Time:** 11:30AM  
**Location:** Brady's Landing, 8505 Cypress Street, Houston, TX  
**Speaker:** Tara Maria Amavi - President TCA/The Compliance Alliance L.P.  
**Topic:** LIAR, LIAR ---THE TRUTH ABOUT SAFETY  
**Cost:** \$20.00 (Includes Lunch)  
**RSVP:** Thomas Scott at [riskcsp@gmail.com](mailto:riskcsp@gmail.com) or 281-989-6075

*Section Meetings, like the General Chapter Meeting, are open to anyone. Members are encouraged to bring co-workers, management, vendors, and other guests.*

## Downtown Section

**Date:** January through October: on the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of the month  
**Time:** 11:30 AM – 1:00 PM  
**Location:** Birra Poretti's  
**Questions:** Sean Roark at [skr@promopros.net](mailto:skr@promopros.net)

## Student Section

**Section:** Gulf Coast – College of Mainland  
**Dates and Times:** 1<sup>st</sup> Meeting: First Saturday of every month at 10:00 AM  
2<sup>nd</sup> Meeting: Second Thursday of every month 12:30 AM  
**Location:** Gulf Coast Safety Institute, 320 Delay Road, La Marque, TX 77561  
**Questions:** Email Zach Garthwaite at [ZHGarth@gmail.com](mailto:ZHGarth@gmail.com)

# Chapter Information

## Volunteer Opportunity



We are in need of 20 volunteers for the Rules and Safety Committee for the upcoming 56<sup>th</sup> Science and Engineering Fair of Houston, which will be held this year at the **University of Houston Athletic/Alumni Center, Main Campus**. Volunteers will meet at 4:00pm on Thursday, February 26. If you are interested in assisting in this great event, please contact Robert Gussman, RSC Chairman at [robert.gussman@nov.com](mailto:robert.gussman@nov.com).

This is an opportunity for the members of the Gulf Coast Chapter to share their expertise with these very bright and talented students.

The Science Engineering Fair of Houston provides a unique and beneficial science educational service to public, private, charter and home school students in grades 7-12. Through the development and presentation of science/engineering projects, students enhance their abilities to: (1) Make observations; (2) Ask questions regarding particular phenomena or situations; (3) Formulate ideas and procedures for the solution of a problem; (4) Use complex and/or analytical reasoning skills to find an answer or a solution to a problem, and (5) Effectively present their works to society. As a volunteer, you will also be help to select a winner for the annual ASSE Gulf Coast Chapter Scholarship Award.

### GCC ASSE Executive Committee and Chairs for 2014- 2015

Position	Name	Email
Delegate/President	Luke J. Albrecht, CSP	<a href="mailto:luke@sageenvironmental.com">luke@sageenvironmental.com</a>
Delegate/Sr. Vice President	Gena Fendley	<a href="mailto:gena.fendley@pfshouston.com">gena.fendley@pfshouston.com</a>
Delegate/Vice President	William Gonzales	<a href="mailto:William.Gonzales@brockgroup.com">William.Gonzales@brockgroup.com</a>
Delegate/Treasurer	Paul Hernandez, CSP	<a href="mailto:paul.hernandez@shell.com">paul.hernandez@shell.com</a>
Delegate/Secretary	James Charo	<a href="mailto:jamescharo@msn.com">jamescharo@msn.com</a>
Past President / Nominations	Carrie Atkins	<a href="mailto:carrie@hasc.com">carrie@hasc.com</a>
Delegate / Program Chair	Cameron Isaacs	<a href="mailto:cameron.isaacs@exxonmobil.com">cameron.isaacs@exxonmobil.com</a>
Delegate / Newsletter Chair	Cristal Shie	<a href="mailto:shiecrystal@gmail.com">shiecrystal@gmail.com</a>