

# Safety Awareness

## Global Harmonisation System for Labelling Hazardous Substances in the University

### Topic: Global Harmonisation System for Labelling Hazardous Substances in the University

#### Information

The GHS is a single internationally agreed system of chemical classification and hazard communication through labelling and Safety Data Sheets (SDS) also adopted by Australia. The GHS is published by the United Nations and includes 'harmonised' criteria for the ready classification and understanding of physical, health and environmental hazards of chemicals.

Any person conducting a business of undertaking (PCBU) has a responsibility under WHS laws to manage the risks from all hazardous chemicals, including those that are dangerous goods.

#### Expectation

In Australia including the University, it is expected that all vendors, research, decanted and waste hazardous chemicals are to be labelled according to the [Code of Practise - Labelling of Workplace Hazardous](#) after 31/12/2016.

It is expected that local areas have a plan in place for labelling such chemicals, that this plan is in alignment with the University's 3 year plan.

- Users of hazardous chemicals are not required to relabel or dispose of existing stock.
- From 1 January 2017 onwards, suppliers and end users of hazardous chemicals must only supply and accept hazardous chemicals which have been classified and labelled in accordance with the GHS.

**Further advice or clarification can be found below or from Work Environment Group or respective WHS officer:**

[https://policies.anu.edu.au/ppl/document/ANUP\\_000636](https://policies.anu.edu.au/ppl/document/ANUP_000636)

<http://www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/sites/swa/whs-information/hazardous-chemicals/pages/hazardous-chemicals-other-substances>

[http://www.comcare.gov.au/preventing/hazards/chemical\\_hazards/globally\\_harmonised\\_system\\_of\\_classification\\_and\\_labelling\\_of\\_chemicals\\_ghs/ghs\\_video](http://www.comcare.gov.au/preventing/hazards/chemical_hazards/globally_harmonised_system_of_classification_and_labelling_of_chemicals_ghs/ghs_video)

[https://www.comcare.gov.au/data/assets/pdf\\_file/0005/152645/03900\\_RO\\_Are\\_you\\_GHS\\_ready\\_poster\\_v6.pdf](https://www.comcare.gov.au/data/assets/pdf_file/0005/152645/03900_RO_Are_you_GHS_ready_poster_v6.pdf)

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**Contact:** [whs@anu.edu.au](mailto:whs@anu.edu.au) for additional information

*Staff and Students are reminded to report incidents to their supervisor and/or through the HORUS/ISIS online incident notification systems.*