

New Hazard Symbols (Pictograms) introduced under the CLP Regulations

The CHIP Regulations (Chemicals (Hazard Information and Packaging for Supply) Regulations) implemented the European Dangerous Substances Directive (No. 67/548/EEC) and Dangerous Preparations Directive (No. 1999/45/EC). The most recent version of CHIP is known as CHIP 4, and became law in 2009.

Countries in the United Nations, including those in the European Union, have been working together with industry representatives and others to agree a classification and labelling system that can be used worldwide. The outcome is the Globally Harmonised System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals, known as the 'GHS'. The GHS provides a single system to identify hazards and to communicate them in transporting and supplying chemicals across the world. The EU agreed to adopt the GHS as the European Regulation (EC) No 1272/2008 on Classification, Labelling and Packaging of substances and mixtures. This is also known as the 'CLP Regulation' or just 'CLP'.

The CLP Regulation became law throughout the EU on 20 January 2009 but did not apply all at once. Under the CLP Regulation:

- Manufacturers and Importers must notify the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA) of certain substances for inclusion in the Classification and Labelling Inventory within one month of placing them on the market on or after December 1st 2010. Notification applies to all hazardous substances if <1 tonne/year placed on the market, and all substances subject to existing REACH registration, whether hazardous or not.
- Mixtures, (currently called 'preparations') to be classified, labelled and packaged according to the CLP Regulation from 1 June 2015 onwards.

The CLP Regulation introduces newly designed hazard symbols, known as pictograms (see below); introduces new labelling phrases, known as 'hazard statements' and 'precautionary statements'; introduces new provisions for a Classification and Labelling Inventory; and maintains the list of harmonised classifications.

Although the CHIP Regulations will be repealed in full in the UK when the new Regulation is fully in force (1 June 2015), it will be necessary to amend CHIP and its supporting guidance as the transitional period progresses and the new Regulation begins to apply the new GHS regime.












Chemical suppliers will be familiar with the Approved Supply List (ASL) as an integral part of the CHIP Regulations. The ASL published Annex I of the Dangerous Substances Directive (67/548/EEC) which lists the harmonised classifications and labelling requirements for some 8000 substances, agreed by experts at European level. The introduction of the CLP Regulation has meant there is no longer a need for the ASL, and it has been withdrawn.

Much of the information provided on these classifications will be submitted as part of the suppliers' REACH registration for those substances that are placed on the market.







The classifications must still be used, and depending on the classification users must be informed of the hazards via use of labels and in certain cases safety data sheets.

If you supply a dangerous chemical in a package, the package must be labelled in accordance with the Classification and Labelling Inventory.

The table below shows the main categories of new CLP pictograms and the current Hazard Symbols which they are replacing.

Current CHIP Symbol	New CLP Symbol (Pictogram)	CLP Hazard Class	Number
 <p>Explosive</p>		Explosives Self-reactive substances and mixtures, types A, B Organic peroxides, types A, B	GHS-01
 <p>Highly/Extremely flammable</p>		Flammable gases, aerosols, liquids or solids Self reactive substances and mixtures Pyrophoric liquids and solids Self-heating substances and mixtures Substances and mixtures, which in contact with water emit flammable gases Organic peroxides	GHS-02
 <p>Oxidising</p>		Oxidising gases, liquids and solids	GHS-03
No current symbol		Compressed gases, liquids and solids Liquefied gases Refrigerated liquefied gases Dissolved gases	GHS-04 NEW
		Corrosive to metals Skin corrosion Severe eye damage	GHS-05
 <p>Toxic/Very Harmful Toxic</p>		Acute toxicity (Cat 1 - 3)	GHS-06



 Harmful/Irritant		Acute toxicity (Cat 4) Skin and eye irritation Skin sensitisation specific target organ toxicity Respiratory tract irritation Narcotic effects	GHS-07 NEW
 No current specific symbol Use either		Respiratory sensitisation Germ cell mutagenicity Carcinogenicity Reproductive toxicity specific target organ toxicity Aspiration hazard	GHS-08 NEW
 Dangerous for the environment		Hazardous to the aquatic environment	GHS-09