

An Introduction To The UK's Chemical Hazards Legislation

Supply

- Requirements for the classification, labelling and packaging of chemicals are set out in the directly acting European Union Regulation (EC) No 1272/2008 on classification, labelling and packaging of substances and mixtures, and amending Directive 67/548/EEC and Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006 (CLP Regulation).

Import / Export

The import and export of chemicals from the UK is subject to a number of regulations, including the Prior Informed Consent (PIC) Regulation (EU) 649/2012. This regulation implements the Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions and controls the import and export of certain dangerous chemicals. In addition, Article 17 imposes more general duties on exporters to provide information to their non-EU customers, including EU compliant labels and safety data sheets to the, unless these would clash with the requirements of the importing country.

Additional requirements apply to chemicals that may be used in the manufacture of drugs and chemical weapons. Further information on the import and export of drug precursors can be found on the Home Office website, whilst information on the chemical weapons convention can be found here.

Suspicious enquiries for chemicals that might be used as precursors for drugs and/or chemical weapons should be reported, as soon as possible to the Anti-Terrorist Hotline on 0800 789321. See National Counter Terrorism Security Office website and leaflet.

CHCS Members can read more about "[The Prior Informed Consent \(PIC\) Regulation](#)".

Use

- **COSHH:** The Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations 2002 (SI 2002/2677). See also COSHH ACoP L5 (6th edition 2013) and COSHH Essentials a free access website (www.coshh-essentials.org.uk) which can be used to make a risk assessment of the health hazards of chemical processes.
- **DSEAR:** The Dangerous Substances and Explosive Atmospheres Regulations 2002 (SI 2002/2776) implements the Explosives Atmosphere Directive (ATEX 137) 1999/92/EC and the safety aspects of the Chemicals Agents Directive (CAD). (Note: CAD also deals with health aspects which are implemented by COSHH). DSEAR implements measures to reduce the risks from fires, explosions and other energy releasing events (e.g. exothermic chemical reactions) arising from the use of dangerous substances. See DSEAR ACOP L138 (2nd Edition 2013).
- **CLAW:** Control of Lead at Work Regulations 1998 (SI 1998/543) and 2002 (S.I. 2002/2676). CLAW ACoP (3rd edition) 2002 (L132)



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- **CAW:** Control of Asbestos at Work Regulations (SI 2002/2675)

Transport

See our new "[Introduction To The Transport Of Dangerous Goods: UK Requirement](#)".



CHCS Training

CHCS offers Modular Training Courses on the writing of Safety Data Sheets (SDSs), and related issues such as classification, labelling and other documentation.

For more information see [CHCS Training](#).

If you have any queries about our training, please [Contact CHCS](#).

Chemicals Legislation Support From CHCS

We provide a range of pages on this website that provide you with an introduction to different aspects of chemicals legislation / regulation:

[Legislation \(Introduction\)](#)

[Brexit](#)

[Transport: Modal Regulations](#)

[International Legislation](#)

[GHS Pictograms](#)

[Transport: Model Regulations](#)

[European Legislation](#)

[EU Law Making Process](#)

[Transport: UK Requirements](#)

[UK Legislation](#)

[EH40](#)

For CHCS members only:

[REACH Regulation](#)

[Prior Informed Consent \(PIC\)](#)

[Seveso III Directive](#)

[CLP Regulation](#)

[The Cosmetics Regulation](#)

[Tracking Substances](#)

[EH40](#)