

Changes to the Requirements for the Classification, Labeling and Packaging of Chemical Products

As part of the process of harmonization of chemical legislation alongside REACH, Regulation (EC) No 1272/2008 on classification, labeling and packaging of substances and mixtures will replace the existing Dangerous Substances Directive 67/548/EEC and the Dangerous Preparations Directive.

The Regulation, referred to as the CLP Regulation, introduces modified criteria for the hazard classification of chemicals and chemical mixtures, and new forms of labels, based on the United Nations Globally Harmonized system for classification and labeling of chemicals. It implements the classification and labeling requirements of REACH.

A transitional period will apply for the re-classification and labeling of existing products until December 2010 for existing chemicals and June 2015 for mixtures.

Existing legislation which references the old Dangerous Substances and Dangerous Preparations Directives will need to be modified to reflect these changes. This includes:

- Toy Safety Directive
- Cosmetics Directive
- Biocides Directive
- Detergents Directive
- WEEE Directive
- End of Life Vehicles Directive
- Volatile Organic Compounds Directive

Directive 2008/112/EC sets out the changes, and the timescales for change of these Directives.

In the UK it is proposed to amend the existing Classification and Labelling Regulations (CHIP) to cover the transitional period of the CLP Regulation which will come into force in April 2009. An HSE consultation document and draft regulation is here:

<http://consultations.hse.gov.uk/inovem/gf2.ti/f/7170/215525.1/pdf/-/cd220.pdf>

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