

GHS Implementation in Canada

Health Canada

Amira Sultan and Kim Godard

Presenter biography

Amira Sultan:

Amira is a Regulatory Policy and Risk Management Manager in the Workplace Hazardous Materials Directorate at Health Canada. She is currently leading the development of the GHS regulations in Canada. Amira comes from a research background and has over 7 years of experience in a regulatory science environment. Her career in the federal government started as a regulatory scientist in controlled substances and tobacco at Health Canada. She then went on to fulfil various roles, including the development of the current *Marihuana for Medical Purposes Regulations* in Canada.

Amira obtained her Bachelor of Science in Biochemistry from Carleton University in Ottawa and her Master of Science in Pharmaceutical Sciences from the University of Toronto.

Kim Godard:

Kim is the Corporate Regulatory Compliance and Enforcement Manager overseeing the confidential business information process (aka CBI), a mechanism allowing industry to protect trade secrets, while assuring workplace safety. In this role Kim is also working to ensure a smooth implementation of GHS.

Kim has close to ten years of experience in research, and over 5 years of experience in a regulatory science environment. Her career in the federal government started as a toxicologist in the area of Hazardous Products. She then went on to fulfil diverse roles in the coordination of regulatory programs in fields ranging from transplant safety, to tobacco control.

Kim obtained her B. Sc. in Biochemistry from the University of Ottawa and her Ph. D. in Biochemistry from the University of British Columbia.

Presentation abstract

The purpose of this presentation is to provide an update on the status of GHS implementation in Canada.

Legislative amendments to implement the GHS in Canada received Royal Assent on June 19, 2014 and will come into force when related regulatory amendments are completed (expected to be no later than June 1, 2015). Canada is expected to publish proposed GHS regulations for public comment in the summer of 2014 and final regulations are expected in fall 2014.

The presentation will outline Canada's approach to GHS implementation, including the substantial harmonization of Canadian classification and hazard communication requirements for workplace chemicals with those of the United States and other countries that have implemented the GHS. The presentation will also discuss implementation timing and transition periods, as well as the implementation of GHS for the protection of confidential business information mechanism.