Latin America GHS Update

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Presenter biography

Leticia Cuevas joined 3E Company in September 2009 as a Regulatory Analyst. In that role, she monitors regulatory updates and researches, analyzes, and reports relevant chemical and EH&S trends for Latin America and Mexico. Ms. Cuevas has over twenty years of experience in the field of international labor law, which includes research and analysis of labor and health regulations, focusing on working conditions impacting health and safety in twenty-six Latin American and Caribbean countries. Ms. Cuevas maintains contact with regulatory authorities throughout the Latin American region.

Ms. Cuevas has worked on compliance issues under regional trade agreements, such as NAFTA, CAFTA, MERCOSUR, and CARICOM; ILO conventions; and dispute settlement procedures under the WTO.

Ms. Cuevas holds a Master of Laws (LL.M.) degree in International Law from American University - Washington College of Law, Washington, D.C. With a first law degree from the Faculty of Law and Social Sciences of the Universidad Autónoma del Estado de Morelos, Mexico, Ms. Cuevas is licensed to practice law in Mexico and international forums. Ms. Cuevas completed her undergraduate work in Communications and Sociology at Pace University, White Plains, New York.

Presentation abstract

The Latin American region has worked arduously on structuring its involvement with the GHS system of classification, labeling, and Safety Data Sheets. Since 2012, progress in Latin America, including Mexico on GHS implementation is very evident. Several Central American countries will be implementing their GHS systems in 2014, and Mercosur member countries, Venezuela excluded, will be implementing GHS through a Mercosur-EU scheme.

Ms. Cuevas will begin with an overview of the developments of GHS in several countries in Latin America and then provide firsthand comparative analysis on compliance issues for Safety Data Sheets and Labeling of hazardous chemicals. Ms. Cuevas will also cover the requirements of non-GHS Safety Data Sheet and labeling regulations.