

Canada versus United States adoption of GHS Revision 7

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Presenter biography

On June 1st, 2022, Dr. Séguin created an LLC company to act as an expert consultant in compliance and regulations related to chemicals, nationally and internationally. He received his PhD in 1992 and now has over 30 years as a professional chemist and this year as an SCHC member! His primary professional interest is with the worldwide deployment and updates of the GHS. He joined Reddwall Solutions, LLC as Product Stewardship Director, offering regulatory consulting to help chemical organizations with EPA PMN, SNUN, Bona Fide and NOC services to name a few.



Presentation abstract

Health Canada updated WHMIS 2015 to the 7th revision of GHS on December 15th, 2022, with a three-year transition for full compliance, until mid-December 2025. The United States enforced the new HAZCOM 2012 (HAZCOM 2024?) on July 19th, 2024, based on the same GHS Revision but with very different transition periods (substances 24 months, mixtures 42 months from the date of enforcement). This presentation will highlight the numerous similarities between the two countries and will also list several fundamental differences which MAY make the one SDS and Label for both countries difficult or impossible to achieve.

Indeed, even if the entire list of GHS hazard classes and categories are now perfectly aligned, which result in the best regulatory alignment ever, between the two countries, some of the differences regarding Trade Secret ingredients, PHNOC and HHNOC, the data content of several sections, the recognition of some classifications provided for carcinogenic ingredients, the languages of the SDS and the label, being optional or mandatory and a few others, are to be recognized and resolved.

We intend to clearly illustrate, whenever possible, how the differences can be worked out, as well as to demonstrate when and why a single document (even when available in English and French) cannot be used.

We will also be opened to discuss possible alignments in the transition period(s), providing what Health Canada may, or may not have published by the time of the conference.