

Global View on the Implementation Status of the GHS
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Presenter biography

Paul W. Brigandi is a recognized expert in US and international hazard communication regulations. The majority of Paul's career was with Mobil Oil Corporation (20 years), where he was involved in a wide variety of research assignments. He spent 10 years in the Product Safety group where he led multi-disciplinary teams, on the planning and implementation of global product safety compliance programs, not to mention writing thousands of SDS along the way. While at Mobil Paul was a member of the OECD Expert Group on classification criteria for mixtures and he chaired both the BIAC to the OECD Expert Mixtures Group and the American Chemistry Council Global Harmonization Task Force. Paul is currently an Executive Consultant with CGI Technologies and Solutions Inc. where he has led the design phase of projects which delivered commercial software that support compliance with GHS hazard communication requirements and with the REACH Regulation. He holds a BS in chemistry from Rutgers University.

Presentation abstract

The Globally Harmonized System for the Classification of Chemicals (GHS) was developed based on the premise of harmonizing existing system for the classification and labeling of chemicals. It is not a model regulation and cannot be adopted by countries as regulatory text. Competent authorities must view the GHS Purple Book as a framework that contains a series of building blocks (e.g., hazard classes and categories, classification criteria, label and SDS hazard communication elements) that can be implemented into existing regulatory schemes, as appropriate, to meet the needs of the target audience. In this presentation, we will look at the implementation of GHS, primarily in regulations that cover work places, with a view towards determining if the original anticipated concepts for implementation are being realized.