

GHS in Canada
Health Canada
Kim Godard and Amira Sultan

Presenter biography

Kim Godard:

Kim is the Head of the Regulatory Compliance and Enforcement Unit in the Workplace Hazardous Materials Bureau at Health Canada. In addition to overseeing Compliance and Enforcement, her team also works on the administration of the confidential business information process (aka trade secret), a mechanism allowing industry to protect trade secrets, while assuring workplace safety. In this role Kim is working to ensure a smooth implementation of GHS.

Kim has close to ten years of experience in research, and over 6 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 the control of tobacco use.

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

Amira Sultan:

Amira is a Regulatory Policy and Risk Management Supervisor in the Workplace Hazardous Materials Bureau at Health Canada. She leads the team responsible for providing technical and regulatory expertise for the WHMIS program and recently led the development of the GHS regulations in Canada. Amira comes from a scientific research background and has over 8 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.

Presentation abstract

The *Hazardous Products Regulations* were made official on February 11th, 2015; thereby implementing the Globalised Harmonised System of classification and labelling of chemicals (GHS) in Canada.

The purpose of this presentation is to provide an update on the status of this implementation. The talk 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. The presentation will also discuss the transition approach and timing, compliance and enforcement, available resources as they relate to safety data sheets, labels and confidential business information claims for disclosure exemptions.