



# The GHS in brief

## Globally Harmonised System

### What is the GHS?

The Globally Harmonised System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS) is an internationally agreed system for classifying and labelling hazardous chemicals



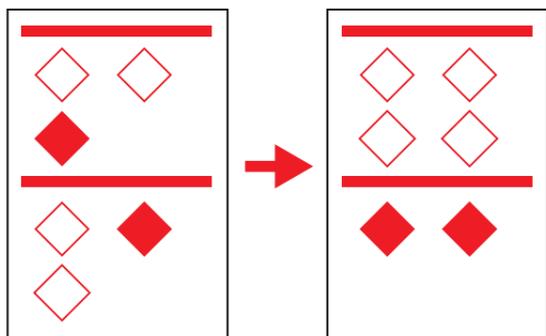
### Why do we need it?

The GHS will reduce time and costs, remove barriers to trade, and protect people and the environment from chemical hazards



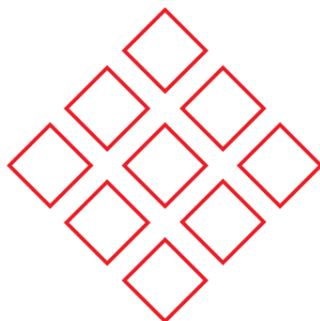
### Who does it affect?

If you are a manufacturer, importer, seller or user of hazardous chemicals, you need to take action on changes to labelling and classification



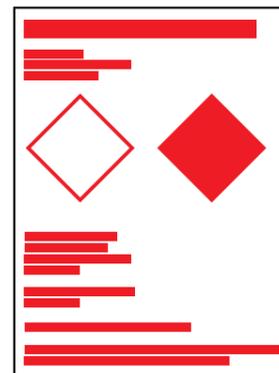
### What are the changes?

The changes affect the way chemicals are classified and how information is communicated



### Pictograms

The GHS uses nine standard symbols with one of two word signal statements - danger or warning



### Labels

Changes to labels include simpler hazard and precautionary statements



### Safety Data Sheet (SDS)

The SDS uses clear language under 16 universal headings



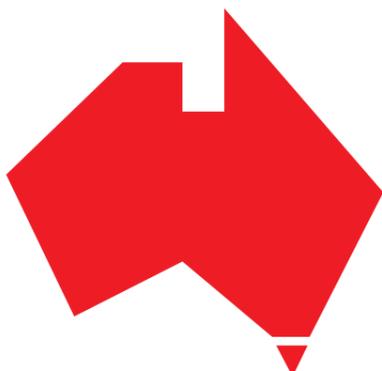
### Transition period

NSW must be GHS compliant by 31 December 2016



### Other countries

Some of our largest trading partners have adopted the GHS, making trade easier between us



### In Australia

Australia began transitioning in 2012 after adopting the GHS Third Edition



### What do I need to do?

Make sure all your chemicals are classified under GHS, re-labelled and you have a new or updated SDS



### Who do I contact?

Talk to us on 13 10 50 or email [contact@safework.nsw.gov.au](mailto:contact@safework.nsw.gov.au)