

# *Globally Harmonised System (GHS) Training Series 2011- GHS Chemical Users Course*

## **INTRODUCTION**

The implementation of GHS in Singapore is planned and coordinated by the National GHS Task Force, which is under the custody of MOM. It is represented by both industry and related government agencies, including HSA, MOM, MPA, MTI, NEA, SCDF, SCIC, SPF, SISO, SPRING Singapore, and WSHC.

GHS is led by MOM and driven by relevant regulatory authorities in close co-operation with industry partners. SCIC was also appointed by the taskforce to undertake GHS cross-industries training.

The Singapore Standard SS 586 : 2008 on the Hazard Communication for Hazardous Chemicals and Dangerous Goods which was launched on 23 October 2008 , will also provide guidance for Singapore's implementation of Globally Harmonised System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS).

## **BACKGROUND**

Chemical products can have potentially adverse effects on people or on the environment. Consequently, many countries have developed laws that require chemicals to be classified and the hazard information to be communicated through labels and Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS). While these laws are similar in many aspects, their differences are significant enough to result in quite different classifications, labels and MSDS for the same product in different countries.

Therefore, a common and coherent approach is needed to define and classify hazards, and also to communicate the hazard information on labels and Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS). As a result, the United Nations has developed the Globally Harmonised System (GHS) for the Classification and Labelling of Chemicals.

The purpose of the GHS is to enhance the protection of humans against hazardous chemicals as well as to facilitate international trade in that all chemicals moving into and out of a country will be classified, packaged and labelled in accordance with a globally harmonised system.

The GHS Chemical Classification and Labelling is an UN-developed system for hazard communication through harmonised provisions for standardised labels and safety data sheets (SDS). It is a prescriptive system created and driven by the United Nations (UN) and was endorsed in 2002 by the UN World Summit for Sustainable Development. The international mandate is to roll out GHS implementation by countries by 2008 and countries are encouraged to implement the GHS by then. So far more than 65 Countries are adopting it, in which Singapore is one of them.

All companies from any industry that manufacture, distribute, supply and use hazardous chemicals would be impacted by GHS and this is especially so for a trading nation like Singapore.

## OBJECTIVES

The course is to provide personnel from companies dealing with chemicals (chemical users) with guidance on the understanding the Globally Harmonised System (GHS) system, the processes of chemical classification and hazards communication through the use of labels and safety data sheets according to the requirements of the GHS.

The course also hopes to provide a forum for professionals and practitioners in the chemical industry to interact and exchange experiences.

## COURSE TOPICS

The training course will encompass the following topics:

➤ **The GHS Background**

- What, why and purpose
- International mandate
- Implementation

➤ **The Chemical Users**

- Are you a chemical user?
- Obligations of chemical users?

➤ **The scope of the GHS**

- Classification criteria
- Hazard communication through Labels & Safety data sheets (SDS)

➤ **The GHS implementation**

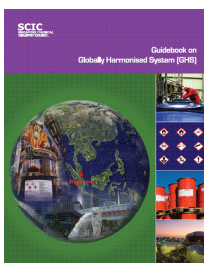
- GHS application
  - Competent authority
  - Suppliers
- Sectors of implementation

➤ **The GHS in Singapore**

- Development
- Possible road map
- The GHS in other countries

## COURSE DETAILS

- The GHS Chemical Users Course is awarded a total of 7 SDU points under the Continuing Professional Development (CPD) programme for Registered Workplace Safety & Health Officers.
- The GHS Chemical Users Course would be awarded a total of 5 CPD points under the FSM CPD program.
- The GHS Chemical Users Course is a 1-day training course. Course material, coffee breaks, lunch and a Guidebook on the Globally Harmonised System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals would be provided in this course.



This guidebook prepared by a Work Group appointed by SCIC will provide guidance for GHS classification, labelling and SDS for Singapore. It will help the readers to understand how chemicals are classified under the GHS, the proper way to label a container, and the information to be provided in SDS.

## HOW TO REGISTER

**Registration Fee:** S\$ 200 for SCIC members and S\$ 350 for Non members

### **To Register for the course**

*All participants* are kindly required to complete the enclosed registration form & return via fax: 6267 8893. A confirmation email will be sent to you upon receiving your registration. Should you require further details, please do not hesitate to contact the SCIC Secretariat Office at 6267 8891 or email us at [secretariat@scic.sg](mailto:secretariat@scic.sg)