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NEW Chemical Labelling System from Arpal Gulf

In 2015 a new system for classifying hazardous chemicals was fully implemented in the UK and all EU member states. The classification system is called the EU Classification, Labelling & Packaging (CLP) Regulation reflects a UN initiative to create a global system of chemical hazard recognition. Arpal Gulf has decided to adopt the new CLP system to ensure that our products are labelled in a uniform way that complies with the latest international standards.

CLP introduces new methods for assessing chemical hazards and generally lowers the concentration at which a product is considered to be hazardous. The most noticeable change is that the square orange hazard symbols traditionally used on labels have been replaced by red-bordered diamonds (called pictograms) to indicate that the product may cause harm.

As hazard classifications are triggered at a lower concentration in the CLP system, it means that some products will now have hazard diamonds where previously there was no orange hazard symbol – so expect to see more products with hazard symbols and more safety information on product labels.

It is estimated that 80-90% of all professional cleaning products and disinfectants in the EU are now classified as hazardous in accordance with CLP, but this does not mean that our products are more dangerous than before, it is just that the method used to classify the products is different.

The new hazard pictograms should not cause alarm, but serve as a useful reminder of the importance proper safety practises and a greater awareness of potential danger if chemicals are not used/handled in the correct recommended manner.



Free Online E-Learning Safety Training Module

To help our customers control the risks associated with handling and storing hazardous chemicals in the workplace, we also provide a FREE to use, online Chemical Safety Course. The interactive course takes participants through the necessary steps to understand the key aspects of using chemicals safely in the workplace.

1. Identifying hazardous products and the CLP pictograms and importance of reading the chemical label.
2. Helping to reduce the risk of harm by using personal protective equipment and the use of controlled dispensing systems.
3. Understanding the golden rules when handling commercial cleaning detergents.
4. To recognise the dangers of using chemical products inappropriately and the potential dangers of mixing products together.
5. What to do in the initial steps in the event of an accidental spill or splash of hazardous chemical.

The course focusses heavily on helping users understand the CLP chemical safety labelling system. It explores a typical chemical label and explains in detail about Danger and Warning signal words, hazard and precautionary statements, the hazard pictograms and the importance of wearing the appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE).

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Benefits of Changing to CLP Labelling



The change to CLP labelling puts chemical use higher up the staff safety agenda than before and we view this as a progressive, strategic move in helping to improve safety standards for our clients.



As part of this process Arpal Gulf has upgraded and improved all its chemical labelling. Labels will now contain much more product information, application advice and more detailed health & safety information than ever before.



From a training perspective, the product container almost becomes a mobile Product Guidance Sheet in itself. The front label will provide application and descriptive information, with the new secondary back label dedicated to health and safety information.



CLP places an increased importance on the requirement and provision of PPE (Personal Protective Equipment) for staff using Arpal cleaning products, in response to the increased visibility of using the new hazard pictograms. It is vital that businesses throughout the UAE provide adequate quantities of appropriate PPE for cleaning staff.

Controlled Dilution Is Our Priority

The safety information provided on Arpal Gulf chemical labels and any hazard pictograms refer to the concentrated product as supplied. When the product is diluted as recommended, the solution may not be classified as hazardous.



The use of controlled dispensing systems from Arpal Gulf dramatically reduces the risk of contact with concentrated chemicals, because most if not all the dispensed ready-to-use solutions are not classified as hazardous.

Differences Between new CLP and old CHIP Regulations

All hazardous chemicals manufactured by Arpal will have new CLP warning pictograms which are diamonds with a red border, along with new warning messages on the label and the Safety Data Sheet.

It is important to treat commercial grade cleaning products with respect. Higher surfactant (cleaning) and biocidal active (germ killing) concentrations in professional products are there by design as they need to perform well in the busy professional arena.

The Most Significant Changes

- 1. RED DIAMOND pictograms** will replace the square orange hazard symbols.
- The indications of danger which appeared under the orange boxes, such as Corrosive; Irritant; Harmful; Flammable; Oxidiser and Dangerous to the Environment are replaced with two simple **Signal Words – DANGER or WARNING**.
- New wording will appear on product labels to replace the old Risk and Safety phrases. Labels will include a new **H (Hazard) statements** and **P (Precautionary) statements**.

The most significant change is the use of the pictogram that looks like a corrosive symbol and is normally found near the Signal Word **DANGER**. This symbol is used in a wider context than before and does not necessarily mean the product will cause severe skin burns. In fact, this symbol could appear on products where there is no evidence of corrosive effects on skin.

The same "Corrosive" pictogram can indicate different types of hazard, so it important to read the label or **Safety Data Sheet** for more information.



Level 1: DANGER May be corrosive to metals. Causes severe skin burns and eye damage.

Level 2: DANGER May be corrosive to metals. Causes serious eye damage. Causes skin irritation.

Level 3: DANGER Causes serious eye damage. Causes skin irritation.

Level 4: DANGER Causes serious eye damage.

