

## Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods and on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals

Sub-Committee of Experts on the Globally Harmonized  
System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals

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Item 5 (b) of the provisional agenda

### Implementation of the GHS:

Reports on the status of implementation

## Canadian Technical Guidance on the Requirements of the Hazardous Products Act (HPA) and the Hazardous Products Regulations (HPR) – WHMIS 2015 Supplier Requirements (Phase 1)

### Transmitted by the expert from Canada

1. On February 11, 2015, Canada published the Hazardous Products Regulations (HPR). These regulations, combined with amendments to the Hazardous Products Act (HPA), modified the Workplace Hazardous Materials Information System (WHMIS) 1988 to incorporate the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS) for workplace chemicals in Canada. This modified WHMIS is referred to as WHMIS 2015. The HPR is based on the building blocks of the fifth revised edition of the GHS.

2. To provide guidance to suppliers of hazardous products (those who sell or import hazardous products) destined for Canadian workplaces, Canada has released Phase 1 of the Technical Guidance on the Requirements of the Hazardous Products Act (HPA) and the Hazardous Products Regulations (HPR) – WHMIS 2015 Supplier Requirements. This document also provides suppliers with information on the Hazardous Materials Information Review Act (HMIRA) and its regulations and the mechanism to protect confidential business information (CBI) in Canada.

3. Canada intends to release the Technical Guidance in two phases in advance of the June 2017 milestone for transition for manufacturers and importers to comply with the new WHMIS 2015 requirements. Phase 1 of the Technical Guidance focusses on classification principles, hazard communication (labelling and safety data sheets), and CBI, which aligns with the content of Part 1 (Introduction) of the GHS, Fifth Revised Edition. Phase 2 will focus on physical hazard classification and health hazard classification (aligned with Part 2 (Physical Hazards) and Part 3 (Health Hazards) of the GHS, Fifth Revised Edition) and is expected to be released in Fall 2016.

4. A PDF copy of the guidance can be requested via this link:

<http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/ewh-semt/pubs/occup-travail/technical-guidance-whmis-2015-guide-technique-simdut/index-eng.php>

Specific questions or comments regarding this guidance can be directed to Health Canada: WHMIS\_SIMDUT@hc-sc.gc.ca.