Canadian technical guidance on the requirements of the Hazardous Products Act (HPA) and the Hazardous Products Regulations (HPR) – WHMIS 2015 supplier requirements

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 the consolidated 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 released on December 2, 2016 the complete Technical Guidance in advance of the June 2017 milestone for transition for manufacturers and importers to comply with the new WHMIS 2015 requirements.

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