



# SCHC Monthly Newsletter

Issue 2 | November 30, 2015

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## GHS

[Globally Harmonised System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals \(GHS\)](#)

[Automotive Firms to Develop Global 'Regulatory Radar'](#)

[European Commission's 2016 Work Plan 'Missed Opportunity' on EDCs](#)

### EPA Worker Protection Standard Final Rule

On Monday, November 2, 2015, the EPA finalized the changes to the Worker Protection Standard. [View the final rule here.](#)

This final rule addresses significant changes to agricultural employee training, hazard communication, field re-entry and personal protective equipment requirements. The final rule is effective 1-Jan-2016 and most aspects are required to be implemented by 2-Jan-2017.

### OSHA Draft Safety and Health Program Management Guidelines

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration is updating its Safety and Health Program Management Guidelines and wants your help in shaping the new document.

Intended to help employers establish safety and health management plans at their workplaces, the guidelines were first published in 1989. They are being updated to reflect modern technology and practices. As revised, the guidelines should be particularly helpful to small- and medium-sized businesses. And for the first time, they address ways in which multiple employers at the same worksite can coordinate efforts to make sure all workers are protected.

The guidelines are advisory only and do not create any new legal obligations or alter existing obligations under OSHA standards or regulations.

OSHA has made available a draft of the revised document on its [website](#), along with a set of questions to consider when reviewing the guidelines. The page also has a direct link to post comments, which will be accepted until February 15. Comments will be taken into consideration when creating a final set of guidelines.



## Miscellaneous

OSHA Draft Safety and Health Program Management Guidelines (Cont.)

EPA Intends Tougher Downwind Air-Pollution Rule in 23 States

Brazil Plans Legislation on Industrial Chemicals

France Proposes Carcinogen 1B Classification for Titanium Dioxide

Chile Updates Safety Data Sheet Standard

“The goal of safety and health management is to prevent workplace injuries, illnesses and deaths,” said Assistant Secretary of Labor for Occupational Safety and Health Dr. David Michaels. “Employers who embrace these guidelines will experience lower injury and illness rates, and their progress in improving the safety culture at their worksites will contribute to higher productivity, reduced costs and greater worker satisfaction.”

### [EPA Intends Tougher Downwind Air-Pollution Rule in 23 States](#)

#### **Brazil Plans Legislation on Industrial Chemicals**

Legislation setting out a Brazilian national policy on industrial chemicals should be issued by the end of year, the country’s environment ministry (MMA) said recently. Alberto Rocha, manager of the chemicals division at the ministry gave further details to a side event at the UN chemicals summit, ICCM4. The proposed law will be presented to Brazil’s National Congress. It will list the obligations, mechanisms and institutional arrangements needed to meet the policy’s goals. These will include:

- Establishing a national chemicals inventory using information in official databases, such as those used in the EU and Canada;
- Using the UN Globally Harmonized System (GHS) of classification and labelling for classifying chemicals in its inventory (GBB December 2014);
- Creating a process which will allow industry to provide substance data to the government;
- Focusing on substance prioritisation based on risk; and
- Developing risk management measures

#### **France Proposes Carcinogen 1B Classification for Titanium Dioxide**

The French authorities have submitted an intention to propose a harmonised classification for titanium dioxide as a category 1B carcinogen. The intention says the proposal was submitted recently, but details have yet to be published. Classification as a category 1A or B carcinogen has significant implications under REACH as:

- It is a criterion for nominating substances of very high concern (SVHC) under Article 57a; and
- substances with such a classification should be restricted in consumer applications – of which titanium dioxide has many, including some using the substance in its nanoform.

[Read More Here](#)

#### **Chile Updates Safety Data Sheet Standard**

Chile has updated its standard on safety data sheets for chemical products to align it with the UN’s Globally Harmonised System (GHS) of classification and labelling. The country’s National Institute of Standards (INN) published NCh 2245: 2015Hoja de datos de seguridad para productos químicos in August. It replaces an earlier version released in 2003. Copies of the new standard are available at: INN standard.



## Meetings & Training

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### Chemical Watch's Global Supply Chain Summit

#### Chemical Watch's Global Supply Chain Summit

Chemical Watch's Global Supply Chain Summit will be held on December 7-8, 2015 at the Renaissance Arlington Capital View, minutes from downtown Washington, DC. The Summit's theme is tackling cutting edge approaches to the safe use of chemicals, product stewardship, and supply chain communications. It is one of numerous conferences offered by respected global chemical regulatory news and analysis provider, [Chemical Watch](#).

The Summit program includes presentations by a number of expert speakers who will address best practices and lessons learned from current approaches by regulators and the regulated community, including case studies from downstream industrial sectors. In addition, the Summit program features a review of the latest work being done on the assessment of alternatives to high risk chemicals, highlighting the current thinking on substitution and alternatives assessment from both sides of the Atlantic.

For more information and last minute registration, please contact Ken Clansky by phone 202-803-5905 or email [ken@chemicalwatch.com](mailto:ken@chemicalwatch.com) as soon as possible.