

WHMIS 2015: The workplace label

WHMIS labels are your first alert about the major hazards of hazardous products. WHMIS labels also outline the basic precautions or safety steps you should take.

There are two main types of WHMIS labels: supplier labels and workplace labels.

A workplace label gives you the following information about a hazardous product:

- The product identifier (name)
- Safe handling information
- A reference to the safety data sheet (SDS)

Workplace labels may include pictograms or other information from supplier labels.

Format

The format for workplace labels is flexible. For example, the information can be written directly onto the container using a permanent marker. And the wording and language(s) used can be chosen to fit your workplace.

When workplace labels are needed

A workplace label is needed in the following cases:

- A hazardous product is produced (made) and used in your workplace
- A hazardous product is decanted (transferred or poured) into another container
- A supplier label becomes lost or unreadable

In general, your employer is responsible for providing workplace labels. Your employer must also make sure that all labels at your workplace are readable, and that they are replaced if damaged.

Sample workplace label

ACETONE

No smoking, sparks, or flames
Wear eye, face, and hand protection
Use in well-ventilated area, or wear NIOSH-approved respirator with organic vapour cartridges

Safety data sheet available

Exceptions for decanted products

Workplace labels are not needed in two specific cases.

The first case is when a hazardous product is decanted from a container that has a supplier or workplace label on it into another container and:

- The decanted product stays under the control of the person who decanted it, and
- The decanted product's name (product identifier) is marked on the container, and
- All of the decanted product will be used during that same shift

For example, if you pour a hazardous product into a container (such as a jar, bottle, or bucket), you write the product's name on the container, you'll be the only person who will use the decanted product, and you'll use all of it during that same shift, then you don't need to apply a workplace label.

The second case is when you'll use the decanted product immediately **and** completely. In this situation, you don't need to apply a workplace label or write the product's name on the container.

Record of meeting

Project				
Address		City	Province	Postal code
Employer		Supervisor		
Date (yyyy-mm-dd)	Time		Shift	
Number in crew		Number attending		

Other safety issues or suggestions made by crew members

Record of those attending

Name (please print)	Signature	Company
1.		
2.		
3.		
4.		
5.		
6.		
7.		
8.		
9.		
10.		
11.		
12.		
13.		

Manager's remarks	
Manager's signature	Supervisor's signature