

Customer Update

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Labeling Update

Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS)

Changes to the Occupational Safety and Health Administration's (OSHA) Hazard Communication Standard are bringing the United States into alignment with the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labeling of Chemicals (GHS). These changes require Beckman Coulter to update the format and safety data information in our MSDS documents (now called Safety Data Sheet or SDS).

Hazard communication standards still require appropriate labeling of containers and the preparation of safety data sheets. However, previous standards allowed manufacturers and importers to convey hazard information on labels and material safety data sheets in whatever format they chose. The modified standard provides a single set of harmonized criteria for classifying chemicals according to their health and physical hazards and specifies hazard communication elements for labeling and safety data sheets.

Major changes to the Hazard Communication Standard:

- > Hazard classification: Manufacturers and importers are required to determine the hazards of the chemicals they produce or import. Hazard classification under the new, updated standard provides specific criteria to address health and physical hazards as well as classification of chemical mixtures.
- > Labels: Manufacturers and importers must provide a label that includes a signal word, pictogram, hazard statement and precautionary statement for each hazard class and category.
- > Safety Data Sheets: The new format requires 16 specific sections, ensuring consistency in presentation of important protection information.

How does this affect you?

Regulations require that all products manufactured after June 1, 2015 must use the new GHS labeling criteria. The regulations permit manufacturers to transition their documentation and product labeling to the new system until this date. In addition, manufactures may distribute inventory with the older labeling system until June 1, 2017. This may result in a mixture of labeling symbols on products. Beckman Coulter is committed to maintaining a high level of compliance and is diligently working towards meeting regulatory due dates.

Product Instructions for Use (IFU's)

In an effort to harmonize all Beckman Coulter reagent Instructions For Use (IFU's), Chemistry Information Sheets (CIS's) and the variety of labeling that accompanies our products, we have initiated a company-wide standardization program that will change the labeling format for most products. There are no changes to the product, functional performance, reagent procedural steps or instrument loading instructions. However, there may be changes to the section heading text in some IFU's, information may be relocated within the IFU, and/or data tables may have different identification numbers. Certain products will undergo a more significant change in the labeling format while others will be very minor. Changes to the labeling will likely start during the first or second quarter of 2014.

We believe that as Beckman Coulter transitions to these standardized documents it will be more convenient for our customers to easily and consistently access information on our products.