



# Workshop on the safe use of chemicals by SMEs

*“SMEs: time to update your CLP labels!”*

Brussels, 16 September 2014, 8.30-17.00

Albert Borschette Conference Centre, Room 0D,  
36 rue Froissart, 1049 Brussels

Organised by the European Commission  
with the European Chemicals Agency



Registration: The event is free to attend, but advance registration is required (subject to confirmation). Register by filling in the electronic registration form available at the following link ([follow the link](#))

The workshop aims to address the challenges faced by companies and in particular SMEs to comply with the new rules for classification, labelling and packaging of mixtures introduced by the CLP regulation (Classification, Labelling and Packaging of substances and mixtures).

The workshop will bring together stakeholders such as industry, trade unions, and consumer associations, as well as competent authorities. All organizations whose members need to know about and/or comply with the regulation are invited to participate and contribute to the discussions, and to help spreading the message to companies e.g. about how to update their chemicals labels by the deadline of 1 June 2015.

The workshop will:

- Identify main challenges for a timely implementation of the CLP Regulation
- Discuss practical solutions to specific SME issues
- Promote the safe use of chemicals in Europe

The CLP Regulation is relatively new EU legislation that adapted the harmonised criteria for the classification, packaging and labelling of chemicals to the international GHS system (Globally Harmonised System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals). Its purpose is to ensure a high level of protection of health and the environment, as well as free movement of substances, mixtures and articles. In line with international agreements, CLP requires companies to classify, label and package their hazardous chemicals appropriately before placing them on the market. The new provisions have applied to substances since 2010, but to mixtures, which represent the vast majority of products on the market, they will apply as of 1 June 2015.

Although the obligations under the CLP Regulation are similar to previous EU legislation, there are some important differences. Moreover, the number of products that must be re-labelled to comply with the CLP is enormous. Products include consumer items (such as paints or detergents) as well as industrial mixtures. The majority of the operators concerned are SMEs, who may not be fully informed of the new regulation and the related obligations. Therefore, the workshop aims to attract multipliers of information towards SMEs in the first place.

## Workshop programme

Chairperson: Sabine Boehmert

08:30 – 09:00 **Registration and welcome coffee**

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09:00 – 09:30 **Opening**

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- **Antti Peltomaki**, Deputy Director General, DG Enterprise and Industry
- **New Director** Green Economy, DG Environment
- **Andreas Herdina**, Director, ECHA's SME Ambassador

09:30 – 10:00 **Setting the scene. What is new ?**

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- **Roberto Scazzola**, Policy Officer, DG Enterprise and Industry  
*Questions and answers*

10:00 – 10:30 **Coffee break**

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10:30 – 12:30 **Session 1: The new CLP rules – What are the challenges for SMEs?**

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- **Marko Sušnik** , UEAPME / WKÖ
- **Sylvie Lemoine**, Director, AISE
- **Janice Robinson**, Director, CEPE
- **Uta Jensen-Korte**, Director; FECC
- **Cristobal Bernal**, Technical Manager CARINSA
- **Isabelle Demoment**, Regulatory manager, HYPRED SA

**Moderator: Maarit Nyman** Deputy Head of Unit, DG Enterprise and Industry

12:30 – 14:00 **Lunch break**

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14:00 – 15:10 **Session 2: Supporting EU industry and SMEs to become aware of and comply with CLP**

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- **Tjwan Tan**, Chair of the Bio ChemTech EEN sector group
- **Jos Mossink**, Head of Unit, European Chemical Agency (ECHA)
- **Ilja van Alten**, Consumer safety institute, the Netherlands
- **Andreas Fleischer**, Federal Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, Germany
- **Ludovica Malaguti**, Senior researcher, National Institute of Health , Italy

**Moderator: Reinhard Büscher**, Head of Unit, DG Enterprise and Industry

15:10 – 15:30 **Coffee break**

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15:30 - 16:45 **Session 3: A safe use of chemicals in Europe – looking ahead**

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### Panel discussion

- **Otto Linher** Deputy Head of Unit, DG Enterprise and Industry
- **Elke Schneider**, Project Manager, Agency for Safety and Health at Work
- **Bjorn Hansen** Head of Unit, DG Environment
- **Alick Morris**, Policy Officer, DG Employment
- **Craig Barker** Programme Product Stewardship, CEFIC
- **Sylvia Maurer** Head of Sustainability and Safety, BEUC
- **Tony Musu** Senior Researcher, European Trade Union Confederation (ETUC)

**Moderator: Cristina de Avila**, Deputy Head of Unit, DG Environment

16:45 – 17:00 **Closing Remarks**

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- **Gwen Cozigou**, Director, DG Enterprise and Industry