Labelling

1. **Legal requirement**

   Labelling is required under different Acts for specific purposes. For chemical labelling, Singapore Standard SS 586 is an ACOP\(^1\) under WSH Act. All containers (regardless of make and size) **shall** be labelled.

2. **Item**

   All chemical labels shall have the following requirement:
   
   A. Chemical name (identifier)
   B. GHS pictogram(s)
   C. Signal Word(s)
   D. Hazard Statement(s)
   E. Precautionary statement(s)
   F. Supplier Information;
   G. Any other information

3. **Size**

   The minimum dimensions of the label for containers:
   
   - less than 3 litres - 52mm x 74 mm
   - 3 litres to 50 litres - 74mm x 105 mm

   We do not usually use any containers larger than 25 litres.

4. **Alternate label**

   Alternate label and format can be used provided it can effectively communicate the information as the given GHS label. The label must reflect the hazards of the chemical. Use of pictogram is essential for emergency response and consistent communication.

5. **Small Containers**

   Small containers used for analysis example HPLC need not be labelled but the user shall devise a method to trace the content and dispose of the container and content as soon as the analysis had been carried out. If the sample is retained for future reference, then labelling is required.

   It may be difficult to label small chemical containers for storage purpose. Alternate format can be used where sufficient information that any user can identify. If the small container cannot be labelled, then it should be tagged with any other means **cross-referencing** to the SDS.

6. **Our labels**

   6.1 **Sizes**

   Only 3 label sizes - basically for the trial
   
   a) 85mm x 54mm (intended for 1 litre or less) - mainly lab small quantity.
   b) 115mm x 74mm (1 litre to 4 litres) - mainly recycled bottles and decanted chemicals
   c) 174mm x 110mm (4 to 25 litres) - mainly for waste solvent carboys

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\(^{1}\) Approved Codes of Practice (ACOP) by the Workplace Safety Health Council (WSHC)
6.2 Information

To comply with the SS requirement, we have reduce this to 4 mandatory information fields namely identifier (A), Pictogram (B), Location (F, which is NTU by default but allowing schools name to be entered or even lab number) and Any other reference for small containers (G).

Default information items C, D, and E are as shown in table below:

<p>| | | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Chemical name (identifier)</td>
<td>We have this</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>GHS pictogram(s)</td>
<td>We have this</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>Signal Word(s)</td>
<td>Default: taken all as DANGER</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>Hazard Statement(s)</td>
<td>Default: Harmful by all three routes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E</td>
<td>Precautionary statement(s)</td>
<td>General lab precautions - lab coat, safety specs, closed toe footwear, gloves, long pants</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>Supplier Information;</td>
<td>Use internally thus NTU is default</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G</td>
<td>Any other information</td>
<td>We have this (ID Optional)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

6.3 Additional Information

We have added 2 additional fields - name of person responsible and date. These 2 field are used primarily to trace the owner of the chemicals and will assist in the inventory location and “age” of the chemicals. (to be discarded if the chemical is old or may have form peroxides or past the use by date).

6.4 Small containers

For very small containers, an ID is attached to the container. The container is placed into a ziplock bag or equivalent with the full label affixed to the external envelope.

It is NOT compulsory to use the labels given. However, it is necessary to label the chemicals in accordance to the SS 586. Schools or departments may choose to do this any way so long it meets the same intent.