

WM3

What it means to you

WM3

- This is the 'Guidance on the classification and assessment of waste'
- In force from ***June 2015***
- Replaces WM2 - Hazardous Waste: Interpretation of the definition and classification of hazardous waste
- Note change in scope / title

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- This is a fundamental change to chemical classification and applicable to transport as well as waste classification
- Global system not UK one
- This is a change led by the EU and not driven by the EA
- WM3 applies across whole UK
- Revised chemical labelling needed and updated COSHH data needs to be supplied / prepared

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- The purpose is to implement the Global Harmonised System of chemical labelling – aka the ***Classification, Labelling and Packaging Regulation (CLP) (2008/1272/EC)***
- Fundamentally alters the way chemicals are labelled
- New system is based on based on hazard classes, categories and statement codes (rather than risk

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- All the hazardous properties related to chemicals are now based on the CLP hazard classes, categories and statement codes.
- Thirteen of the fifteen hazardous properties are now based on the new, more detailed criteria added to Annex III of the Waste Directive

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- Classification no longer 'risk phrase' led, but instead based on 'hazard statements' in format HXXX, where X = number
 - E.g. H220 Extremely flammable gas
 - H224 Extremely flammable liquid and vapour
- i.e. identifies if the flammable is a liquid or a gas
- Hazard statements are much more numerous and specific than old risk phrases

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- Old 'H' codes are now labelled 'HP', and some differ from v3 of WM2 – e.g. H5 was 'harmful' it is now HP5 'Specific Target Organ Toxicity/Aspiration Toxicity'
- HP6 has also been relabelled
- H3A and H3B no longer split just HP3
- New pictograms – red bordered, white background and black design

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- HP9 – infectious is essentially unchanged
- This is due to it not being based on chemical properties
- However paperwork needs to show correct code

