

Glossary of terms and acronyms

1. **COSHH Regulations** - The Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations require employers to carry out an assessment of risk to employees and others from exposure to hazardous substances. The assessment should lead to the adoption of control measures which reduce exposure to as low as is reasonably practicable.
2. **Hazard Pictogram** - A symbol on a label or document that communicates the hazardous property of the substance by use of a standardised picture.
3. **(Hazard) Classification** - The classification of a substance is based on a series of test results designed to determine if a particular exposure would produce a specified 'harm' eg toxic, corrosive, irritant etc.
4. **R & S and H & P phrases** - Risk & Safety phrases describe the risk from exposure to a substance and the precautions (control measures) to be adopted. It was a legal requirement from the CHIP Regulations. The Hazard & Precautionary phrases are the same principle used in the new European CLP Regulation
5. **Workplace Exposure Limit** - WELs are the British occupational exposure limits. They are concentrations of hazardous substances in the air, averaged over a specified period of time, referred to as a time-weighted average (TWA).
6. **Exposure scenario** - An exposure scenario describes the operating conditions and the risk management measures that have been identified by the supplier as necessary to use the chemical safely in your process.
7. **PPE / RPE** - Personal Protective Equipment is anything worn or carried by a person to provide a risk reduction/control measure. Respiratory Protective Equipment is equipment worn to provide protection against inhalable/respirable hazardous substances.
8. **CLP** - This European Regulation covers the Classification, Labelling and Packaging of substances and mixtures and also adopts the GHS across all EU countries.
9. **Globally Harmonised System** - This is a United Nations voluntary agreement on the classification and labelling of chemicals.
10. **REACH** - Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals is a European Regulation aimed at improving the level of control of 'dangerous substances'.
11. **CHIP** - The Chemicals (Hazard Information & Packaging for Supply) Regulations was the domestic legislation to implement European Directives on the control of Dangerous substances/preparations. It provided for the preparation of SDSs along with classification and labelling.

