Lab Signage Definitions and Symbols **GHS Pictograms**



Health Hazard

Aspiration Toxicity	Chemicals or mixtures of liquids or solids that can damage the respiratory system if inhaled (i.e., aspirated) by mistake.
Carcinogen	A chemical or mixture that will induce cancer or increase its incidence.
Germ Cell	Chemicals that will cause mutations to germ cells of humans that can be transmitted to
Mutagenicity	progeny.
Reproductive Toxicity	Chemicals or mixtures that affect sexual function and fertility and/or developmental
	toxicity from conception through birth.
 Specific Target Organ 	Chemicals and mixtures that have demonstrated to cause non-lethal but both reversible
Toxicity	and irreversible damage to specific organs.
Single/Repeated	
Exposure	
Respiratory or Skin	A substance that will lead to hypersensitivity of the airways or allergic responses to the
Sensitizer	skin following inhalation/contact.





ACUTE TOXICITY

Skull and Crossbones

Chemicals that have the potential to cause death if inhaled, ingested, or absorbed	
through the skin in relatively small amounts.	
Chemicals having high acute toxicity are those that have oral, inhalation, or dermal LD_{50}	
and LC_{50} values below specified thresholds listed in the OSHA Lab Standard. These	
values are as follows:	
• Oral LD ₅₀ (rats) $<$ 50 mg/kg	
 Dermal LD₅₀ (rabbits) < 200 mg/kg 	
• Inhalation LC ₅₀ (rats) < 200 ppm in air	



CONOSION	
Corrosive to Metal	A substance or a mixture, which will materially damage, or even destroy metals or cause
	irreversible damage to the skin.
Skin Corrosion/Burns	A substance or a mixture, which will cause irreversible damage to the skin.
Serious Eye Damage	Chemicals or mixtures that produce irreversible tissue damage or serious physical decay
	of vision.





Exclamation Mark	
 Irritants (Skin & Eye) 	A substance that causes reversible changes to the eye or skin.
Skin Sensitizer	A substance that causes an allergic response following skin contact.
Toxicity	A substance that exhibits acutely harmful effects if swallowed, has contact with the skin, or inhaled.
Narcotic Effects	A substance that may cause drowsiness, dizziness, lack of coordination, vertigo, reduced alertness, or similar condition.
Respiratory Tract Irritant	A substance that may cause redness, cough, pain, or similar effect on the respiratory tract.
Flame Over Circle	
Oxidizers	Substances that generally by yielding oxygen cause or contribute to the combustion of other materials.
Gas Cylinder • Gases Under Pressu	Cases under a pressure of 200 kPa (20 psi -2 atm) or more or which are liquefied or
Gases Under Pressul	 Gases under a pressure of 200 kPa (29 psi, 2 atm) or more or which are liquefied or liquefied and refrigerated.
Exploding Bomb	
Explosives	A solid or liquid substance (or mixture of substances), which is in itself capable of extremely violent decomposition.
• Self-Reactives (Type A or B)	Thermally unstable liquid or solid chemicals liable to undergo a strongly exothermic decomposition even without participation of oxygen (air) when heated and which may result in explosion or fire.
 Organic Peroxides (Type A or B) 	Thermally unstable chemicals, which may undergo exothermic self- accelerating decomposition and which may be sensitive to impact or friction, explosive decomposition, or explosive reaction with other substances.
Flame	
Pyrophorics	A liquid, solid, or gas which is liable to ignite shortly after coming into contact with air, even in small quantities.

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Flammable	Any non-refillable receptacle designed to eject components at least one of which is a	
Aerosols	flammable gas, liquid, or solid.	
Flammable Gas	A gas at 20° C and standard atmospheric pressure that has a flammable	range in air.
Flammable Liquids	A liquid having a flashpoint of not more than 93° C (199.4° F).	
Flammable Solids	A solid that is readily combustible, or may cause or contribute to fire thr	ough friction.
Emits Flammable	Solids or liquids that are liable to become spontaneously flammable or give off flammable	
Gas	gases in dangerous quantities when in contact with water.	
Self-Reactives	Thermally unstable liquid or solid chemicals liable to undergo an exothe	rmic
(Type C – F)	decomposition even without participation of oxygen (air) when heated a	and which may
	result in fire (but not explosion).	
Organic Peroxides	Thermally unstable chemicals, which may undergo exothermic self- acce	lerating
(Type C – F)	decomposition and burn rapidly or react with other substances to cause	fire.
General Hazard	ls	
Category	Description	Symbol
No Food or Drink Allowed	Posted at access points to all laboratories where chemicals,	
	biohazards, or radioactive materials are used or stored.	
No Open Toed Shoes	Posted at access points to all potentially hazardous areas where a	
	danger is present of foot injuries due to physical, chemical, biological,	
	or radioactive hazards.	
Biohazard	Used to denote the potential for human or animal pathogenic	
Dionazara	organisms. The Biosafety Officer will specify additional required	
	postings as applicable by specific regulation or standard.	
		BIOHAZARD
Select Carcinogen	Any substance which meets one of the following criteria:	
Sciect careinogen	 It is regulated by OSHA as a carcinogen; or 	\wedge
	 It is regulated by converse as a calculogen, of It is listed under the category, "known to be carcinogens," in 	
	the Annual Report on Carcinogens published by the National	
	Toxicology Program (NTP) (latest edition); or	
		CARCINOGEN
	• It is listed under Group 1 ("carcinogenic to humans") by the	ORIONOGEN
	International Agency for Research on Cancer Monographs	
	(IARC) (latest editions); or	
	• It is listed in either Group 2A or 2B by IARC or under the	
	category, "reasonably anticipated to be carcinogens" by NTP, and causes statistically significant tumor incidence in	
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	 experimental animals in accordance with any of the following criteria: After inhalation exposure of 6-7 hours per day, 5 days per week, for a significant portion of a lifetime to dosages of less than 10 mg/m 3; After repeated skin application of less than 300 (mg/kg of body weight) per week; or After oral dosages of less than 50 mg/kg of body weight per day. 	BEDBODUCTBUE
Reproductive Toxin	Chemicals that affect the reproductive capabilities including adverse effects on sexual function and fertility in adult males and females, as well as adverse effects on the development of the offspring.	REPRODUCTIVE
Electrical Hazard	Indicates potentially hazardous areas containing accessible equipment with exposure and unguarded electrical components operating at less than 600 volts.	ELECTRICAL HAZARD
Laser Radiation	Indicates the presence of Class II, III, and IV laser(s) that have the potential for operating in an open beam configuration. Viewing of the direct beam or reflection is likely to cause serious eye injury. Additional hazards may include skin burns or fire.	LASER RADIATION
Magnetic Field	Indicates the presence of instruments that generate large static magnetic fields. Examples include NMR and MRI. Of primary concern are the affinity of the magnetic field for metal objects in the room, on a person, and effect on medical implants.	STRONG MAGNETIC FIELD
Satellite Accumulation Area	Satellite Accumulation Area (SAA) is defined as a location at or near any point of generation where hazardous waste is initially accumulated in containers before consolidating the waste at a designated accumulation area (90/180-day) or storage area. The location must be under the control of the person generating the waste. No more than 55 gallons of non-acute hazardous waste and 1 quart of liquid acute hazardous waste or 2.2 pounds of solid acute waste may be accumulated in each SAA.	SATELLITE ACCUMULATION AREA
Personal Protective Equipment		

Lab Coat	Posted at access points to all potentially hazardous areas where there is a possible exposure to potentially infectious material (including human blood and related blood products), potential contact with hazards or potentially hazardous chemicals clean-ups of spills of hazardous materials.	
Hearing Protection	Posted at access points to all potentially hazardous areas where there is a potential for noise exposures at or above 85 dBA.	
Eye Protection	Posted where there is a reasonable probability of exposure to eye or face hazards from flying particles, molten metal, liquid chemicals, acids or caustic liquids, chemical gases or vapors, or potentially injurious light radiation. Eye protection with side protectors is required where there is a hazard from flying objects.	
Gloves	Posted where hands are exposed to hazards such as skin absorption of harmful substances, severe cuts or lacerations, severe abrasions, punctures, chemical burns, thermal burns, or harmful temperature extremes.	