

Foam Insulation Products GHS Classification



December 2015

Owens Corning has adopted the new requirements of the Occupational Safety & Health Administration's (OSHA) Hazard Communication Standard (HCS) which are now aligned with the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labeling of Chemicals (GHS). The GHS document is an internationally agreed-upon system, created by the United Nations, designed to replace the various classification and labeling standards used in different countries. The change simplifies communication regarding hazardous materials and promotes international consistency.

As part of the new requirements, Owens Corning has reclassified all of their foam insulation products based on the GHS system for classification. This reclassification has resulted in our foam insulation products being classified as "Articles."

OSHA defines an Article as...

" means a manufactured item other than a fluid or particle: (i) which is formed to a specific shape or design during manufacture; (ii) which has end use function(s) dependent in whole or in part upon its shape or design during end use; and (iii) which under normal conditions of use does not release more than very small quantities, e.g., minute or trace amounts of a hazardous chemical (as determined under paragraph (d) of this section), and does not pose a physical hazard or health risk to employees.

It is not appropriate to issue a Safety Data Sheet (SDS) for Articles. A Safe Use Instruction Sheet (SUIS) is now the document provided by Owens Corning to communicate safe handling and use instruction for manufactured items defined as Articles under the OSHA Hazard Communication Standard, 29 CFR 1910.1200.