

## Customer Change Notification and “V” lot number information

Dear Customer,

As a global leader in life science and high technology, Sigma-Aldrich strives to continually meet and exceed expectations for quality, service and safety. With that in mind, we are sending this reminder notification of changes affecting our product labels, MSDS and certificates of analysis.

Sigma-Aldrich is transitioning our pure substance product labels to fully comply with the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labeling of Chemicals (GHS) regulations. We are currently in the process of updating our labels at all worldwide locations to standardize chemical labeling in the effort to create a safer work environment in your facilities.

We are harmonizing safety procedures for our chemicals to ensure that we continue to provide customers unsurpassed service in a safe, efficient and compliant manner. The material quality and specifications of Sigma-Aldrich products have not changed.

The United Nations GHS system is built on 26 hazard classes and is comprised of the following communication elements:

- Up to 5 (out of a total 9) diamond-shaped pictograms with red borders and black symbols
- Two signal words – Danger and Warning
- 71 Hazard statements (coded for physical/chemical, health and environmental hazards)
- 137 precautionary statements (coded for general, prevention, reaction, storage, disposal, etc.)
- An updated Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) that follows the 16 chapter format with the hazard information including the labeling to be shown in Section 2

Orange symbols currently found on our labels will be replaced with diamond-shaped pictograms. There will also be more pictograms as each hazard class is viewed separately and the pictograms will now be included in the MSDS to align with GHS requirements. Labels will also include additional text.

### Suffix “V” lot numbers

We have added the suffix character, “V”, to our current corporate batch number to identify that the product has been reviewed and classified for GHS labeling. For any given product number there is no difference in material or specification between lots with or without the “V”.

If a bulk batch had been previously packed conforming to previous label format, but new packing requires GHS compliant labels from the same bulk, the letter “V” will be appended to the lot number for the remaining bulk and packed units:

For example, batch 058K1115 becomes 058K1115V.

For Quality Assurance, Quality Control and all compliance requirements including material origin, a full audit trail assures traceability from the “V”-suffixed batch to the original designation without the “V” suffix, and they may be regarded as identical in all aspects.

If a bulk batch has only ever been packed with labels conforming to the GHS requirements, the suffix “V” will still be appended for consistency, but there will be neither corresponding labels nor COA without the “V”.

In addition to the GHS label implementation, we have updated our certificates of analysis. Effective immediately, changes include:

- Sigma-Aldrich logo with a single address for all certificates of analysis
- Lot-specific certificates of analysis will be version numbered to make them easier to identify
- Structures and other literature and regulatory information will be added, if available, to the top of the certificates of analysis
- Descriptive information on each product will include a greater amount of detail

Thank you for your patience during this transition, and we appreciate your business. If you have any questions, please contact our Product Safety department via email at [productsafety@sial.com](mailto:productsafety@sial.com) or by phone at 1-800-521-8956 ext. 2143 in the U.S. In Europe, contact your local Technical Service representative or email [eurmsds@sial.com](mailto:eurmsds@sial.com). For more information, visit our website at <http://www.sigma-aldrich.com/ghs>.

Sigma-Aldrich Quality

Date: 15 February 2011