

Home Heating Oil

Information Sheet for Suppliers, Distributors and Retailers of containers of Home Heating Oil

Revised July 2017

It has been noted that the practice of sale of 20/25 Litre containers of home heating oil at retail outlets/fuel depots is common practice. It is important for suppliers, distributors and retailers to ensure that these containers of home heating oil are classified, labelled and packaged correctly. This information sheet aims to outline the legislative requirements which must be complied with when undertaking the practice of placing containers of home heating oil for sale on the market as well as recommendations on safe storage.



Classification, Labelling and Packaging:

All hazardous substances and mixtures must be classified, labelled and packaged according to Regulation (EC) No. 1272/2008 on the classification, labelling and packaging of substances and mixtures (CLP) before being placed on the market.

Home heating oil sold in Ireland is typically pure Kerosene, a substance whose classification and labelling requirements can be determined from the Safety Data Sheet (SDS) as supplied by the importer/distributor/supplier. Kerosene with a CAS no. of 8008-20-6 and kerosene (hydrodesulfurised) with a CAS no. of 64742-81-0 are classified with Aspiration Toxicity 1 H304 May be fatal if swallowed and enters airways, and this classification must appear on all labels and SDSs.

Industry also self-classify kerosene as: Flammable (H224), Causes skin irritation (H315), May cause drowsiness or dizziness (H336) and Toxic to aquatic life with long lasting effects (H411). Where these classifications are included in the

SDS, they are obligatory for inclusion on the label also (see label examples below).

The label **must contain** the name, address and telephone number of the EU supplier, the nominal quantity of the container, the product identifiers e.g. CAS/EC No. for a substance, the hazard pictograms and the signal word (either Warning or Danger dependent on classification), the hazard statements and the appropriate precautionary statements (only 6 are permitted on label). The hazard information on the label must be consistent with the classification in section 2 of the corresponding SDS.

Where home heating oil, classified and labelled for aspiration toxicity (H304), is sold in containers to the general public, the container (packaging) must be fitted with a child resistant fastening (CRF). The CRF must be in conformity with the EN ISO Standard 8317 for re-closable packages. This standard may only be certified by a laboratory which conforms to EN ISO/IEC 17025.

The packaging must also contain a tactile warning of danger (TWD) (raised triangle which enables blind or visually impaired people to ascertain if a package contains a hazardous chemical). It must be prominently placed on the container, so that it can be felt before accessing the contents. The TWD must comply with EN ISO standard 11683.



Safety Data Sheets (SDS):

Under the REACH Regulation (Regulation (EC) No. 1907/2006), Safety Data Sheets (SDSs) are required to be provided to professional users i.e. suppliers, distributors, retailers, for all hazardous substances and mixtures. They are not required for the general public, as the label must provide all the relevant hazard and safety information for consumers. SDSs must be REACH compliant and the information contained in them must be made available for all workers who use or are exposed to the chemical involved. The classification of the heating oil substance must be included in section 2.1 of the SDS and the label elements must be included in section 2.2 i.e. a graphical reproduction of the pictogram(s), signal word, hazard statements and precautionary statements as per the label.

Recommendations for Safe Storage of containers:

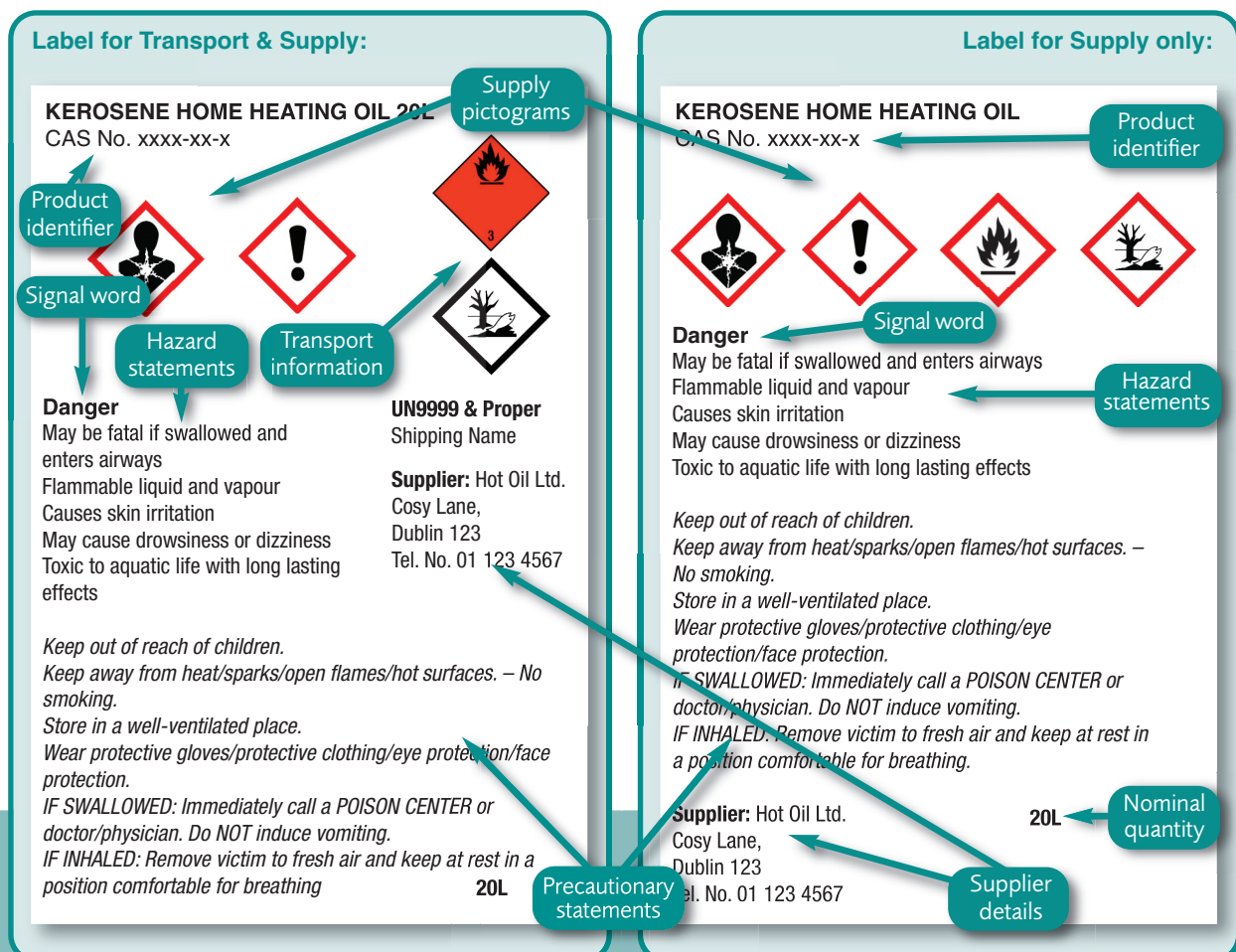
The flash point of Kerosene is in the range 38-72°C so a flammable atmosphere would not be expected to form under normal circumstances. Containers should be kept tightly closed in a dry, cool and well-ventilated place. Preferably they should be kept in a bunded area and away from open flames, hot surfaces and sources of ignition. They should not be stored near incompatible materials such as oxidising agents.

Example of Labelling

Two mock-up labels for Kerosene are set out below as an example of how the labels may look and also to indicate which elements are required on the label.

The label on the left shows a label for heating oil being delivered to the retailer (petrol station or retail store) for sale where the container must be labelled **both** in accordance with ADR and CLP (for transport and supply). In place of the supply pictograms for flammability and environmental hazards, ADR labels or marks can be used instead on the hazard label, as ADR labels or marks take precedence over CLP pictograms on a combined supply and transport label.

The requirement for ADR labelling for transport is not required if the material is **not being transported** i.e. is being sold at site of filling, as there is a derogation under ADR exemption 1.1.3.1 from transport labelling, which applies to a customer when they fill up at a petrol station into a suitable container for their own personal use or purchase a retail sale container on site. The label on the right, therefore, shows the supply labelling only for this scenario.



For further information:

Contact the HSA's Chemicals HelpDesk chemicals@hsa.ie

Visit www.hsa.ie/eng/Chemicals/

Use www.besmart.ie – the HSA's free online risk assessment tool