

Obligations for producers of candles/diffusers

When making candles/diffusers with fragrances there are a number of legal obligations that producers need to consider before placing them on the EU market. Where a candle (including wax melts) or diffuser has added fragrances it may require a hazard label in accordance with CLP Regulation and a safety data sheet (SDS) in accordance with the REACH Regulation. This note refers to hazard classification, labelling and packaging under CLP. Please see below for references to safety standards which may also need to be considered when producing candles/diffusers.

[Under the CLP Regulation \(EC\) No 1272/2008:](#)

- **Classification:** Firstly you must determine the classification of the candle/diffuser mixture before placing on market. You should be able to see the classification of the ingredients you use in the candle/diffuser mixture, including fragrance oils, in section 3 of safety data sheets provided by your supplier. However, if you are unsure of the information provided by your supplier, you can check the classification of the ingredient(s) on the ECHA website using the chemical name or product identifier such as the CAS number <http://echa.europa.eu/information-on-chemicals>. Further information how to classify a mixture is available on the ECHA website at the following [link](#)
- **Labelling & Packaging:** Once the hazard classification of the candle/diffuser is determined, these hazards are communicated via a hazard label. A label cannot be applied directly to a candle wax, as it is intended to burn. Therefore, all such candles need to be placed in packaging. Please note that an open glass container, aluminium foil used for tea lights or an openwork paper box are not considered as packaging under CLP. Further information on the requirements for labelling are available on our website at the following [link](#) and on our [information sheet](#) on labelling and packaging.
- **Importer obligations:** If you are importing either the candles/diffusers or the ingredients for the candles/diffuser from outside the EU, then you may have importer duties under REACH and or CLP. Therefore, we recommend you read the information sheet relating to chemical importers below. If you are sourcing any of your ingredients from the UK, you may also need to consider your supply chain post Brexit. For further information please see our website www.hsa.ie/brexit

[Under the REACH Regulation \(EC\) No 1907/2006:](#)

- **Safety Data Sheets** are required for all hazardous substances and mixtures being placed on the market and they are intended for industrial and professional users only. They should be compiled in accordance with Annex II of the REACH Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006. The supplier of the substance(s) that go into making up your candles/diffuser should already have provided you with an SDS for the ingredient(s). The hazard information provided therein will provide the information required to determine the hazard classification of the candle/diffuser as appropriate. Further information on safety data sheets is available at the following [link](#).

Guidance and information on labelling under CLP and SDSs under REACH is available below.

- HSA website on CLP <http://www.hsa.ie/chemicals>
- HSA Information sheet on [labelling and packaging](#)
- HSA Information Sheet on [Chemical Importers](#)
- HSA information sheet on [Safety Data Sheet](#)
- ECHA information on [mixture classification](#)
- British Candle Makers Federation [advice sheet](#) for small candle makers (*while it references UK law you may find it useful*)

See also ECHA [CLP FAQ](#) relating to candles.

What are the labelling and packaging requirements for candles under CLP?

Under CLP, candles are regarded as mixtures. Therefore, if a candle is classified as hazardous or where CLP Article 25(6) applies, then the candle must be labelled and packaged in accordance with CLP before placing it on the market.

An open container of glass or aluminium foil or an openwork paper box are not considered as packaging in the context of CLP Article 35. A candle in such a container, must still be supplied in packaging that complies with the CLP requirements, with the label firmly affixed to one or more surfaces of the packaging immediately containing the candle, and positioned horizontally on the side of the packaging, so that it can be easily read.

For small candles, certain labelling exemptions may apply, in accordance with CLP Article 29.

Modified Date: 11/11/2019

ID: 1627

Version: 1.0

There are three standards for candles which come under the remit of Competition and Consumer Protection Commission (CCPC) www.ccpc.ie and the National Standard Authority of Ireland www.nsai.ie. Please contact them directly if you have any questions regarding these standards. The standards are:

- I.S. EN 15426 (Latest Version: 2007) CANDLES - SPECIFICATION FOR SOOTING BEHAVIOUR
- I.S. EN 15493 (Latest Version: 2007) CANDLES - SPECIFICATION FOR FIRE SAFETY
- I.S. EN 15494 (Latest Version: 2007) CANDLES - PRODUCT SAFETY LABELS

Version 1: 12 October 2020