A PRACTICAL GUIDE TO

Professional label printing





No need to reinvent the wheel!

Check out our step-by-step process that we've developed over almost three decades in the **chemical industry** and hundreds of implementations.

It guarantees a **quick** and **cost-effective** solution for all your large-scale printing needs. Perfect for anyone involved in industrial label printing – chemical distributors, producers, and businesses of all sizes.

So, what exactly is professional labeling system?

It's when you print lots of labels on demand in the warehouse, using thermotransfer printers and professional printing software connected to an ERP system or a specialized tool like Chemius.

In this guide, we'll focus on printing labels for chemicals. These labels can be pretty complex because they include up to 6 pictograms that can vary in size and number.



Let's go!

To begin, it's crucial to design your labels from the inside out.

This means including all mandatory label elements and adhering to dimension requirements. Everything else should be tailored to accommodate the content.

Here's the breakdown of the steps:

- 1. Define the necessary label elements.
- 2. Determine the appropriate label size.
- 3. Choose the hardware.
- 4. Select the software.
- 5. Dos & don'ts

Label elements

Sample product





This space is dedicated to describing your product in detail. Highlight the unique features and benefits that set your product apart. Explain how it solves a specific problem or enhances the user's experience. Emphasize its cific problem or enhances the user's experience. Emphasize its cific problem or enhances the this is your opportunity to convincuality, usability, and any innoverthis is your opportunity. Be clear, cone potential customers why the this is your opportunity to come potential customers why they product over others. Be clear, cone potential customers why they

ative aspects. Remember, should choose you UN 1993

Include concise instructions for the application methods, e.g. surface preparation, application methods, e.g. surface preparation, application methods, of your product here. Outline essential steps instructions ensure effective use and optimal drying times, safety precautions, etc. Clear essential steps and surface and optimal drying times, safety precautions, etc. Clear essential steps and optimal drying times, safety precautions, etc. Clear essential steps and optimal drying times, safety precautions, etc. Clear essential steps and optimal drying times, safety precautions, etc. Clear essential steps and optimal drying times, safety precautions, etc. Clear essential steps and optimal drying times, safety precautions, etc.

Keep away from heat, hot surface Keep away from heat, hot surface S, sparks, open flames and othe smoking. P301 + P310 IF SWALLO SMOKING. P301 + P353 IF ON SKIN (or hair): Take off immediately call a POISO N CENTER/doctor. P303 + With water [or shower]. P403 + P2 with water [or P202 Do not handle until all safet y precautions have been read at nd understood. P210

Contains: styrene; trimethoxyvinylsilane.

DANGER: H304 May be fatal if swallowed and enters airw allergic skin reaction. H319 Causes serious eye irritation. May cause respiratory irritation. H361d Suspected of damays. H317 May cause a Causes damage to organs through prolonged or repeated #1332 Harmful if inhales aquatic life with long lasting effects.

this section, add any relevant e r experience. This could include ther products. Keep this informa

verwhelming the user.

unique features environment that enhance aging the unborn child unique features, environmental consideration tion brief yet informative to provide valuable

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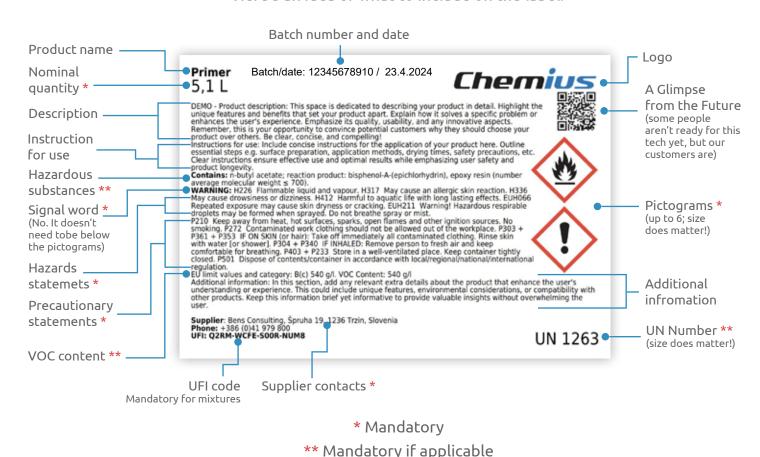
e: +38641979800

1.1

Define label elements

Think about what you want to include on the label. Usually, you'd want to have all the necessary stuff (check CLP/GHS), plus some extra text like product description, usage instructions, storage info, application details, etc.

Here's an idea of what to include on the label:



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Determine the max number of pictograms

2.2 Label elements

Labelling according to Regulation (EC) No 1272/2008 [CLP]









CHECK SECTION 2 OF ALL YOUR SAFETY DATA SHEETS!

Signal word: DANGER

H225 Highly flammable liquid and vapour.

H304 May be fatal if swallowed and enters airways.

H315 Causes skin irritation.

H340 May cause genetic defects

In this step, you'll want to find the chemical in your portfolio that has the most pictograms.

Usually, chemicals have around 3-4 pictograms, but there could be some cases where you'll find up to 5 pictograms. And, well, if you're really unlucky, you might stumble upon a chemical with 6 pictograms.

To figure out the number of pictograms, just check section 2 of safety data sheets (SDS), and make a list of chemicals along with the corresponding number of pictograms.

This can be a bit challenging and timeconsuming if you've got hundreds of SDSs in PDF. But if you use Chemius, you can analyze your entire portfolio in just a couple of seconds - even if it's tens of thousands of chemicals.

Label elements

1.2

Define the size of pictograms



The size of **each** pictogram depends on the size of the packaging unit.

Generally, the length of a side of the pictogram determines its size. We're talking a minimum of 10 mm and a maximum of 46 mm. Sure, you can go bigger, but why waste precious label space if you don't have to?

Did you know...

With Chemius, analyzing your entire portfolio of chemicals or selected chemicals is a breeze, even if you have tens of thousands.

To enhance professional label printing, we've incorporated a feature that streamlines the preparation of all necessary data for portfolio analysis and connection to label printing software.

This enables you to expedite the setup of your large-scale label printing operations like never before.

EXPORT TO NICELABEL



Group action



Share Products

Share product(s) outside of platform

1.3



Add to formulation

Create a new formulation with selected products or add the...



Create transport document (ADR)

Create a new transport document inlouding selected...



Export to NiceLabel

Export selected products to Excel sheet to use it with...



X

Delete Products

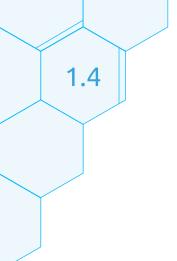
This will delete the selected products if you have edit righ.



To Report

Report selected products to different authorities





Pro Tip #1

For the amount of mandatory text, check section 2.2 - Label elements - in the Safety Data Sheet with the most pictograms.

The number of pictograms usually correlates with the amount of H and P statements on the label.

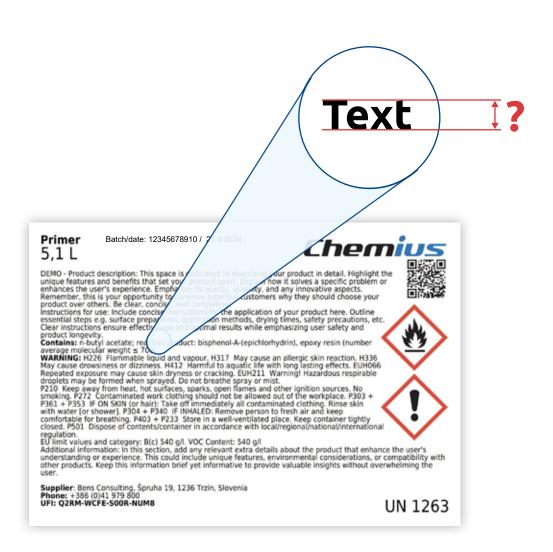
Pro tip #2

Mind the special types of chemicals where additional information is mandatory, like:

- biocides
- plant protection products
- detergents
- paints and coatings
- etc.

Label elements 11

Text (character) size



Legibility Standard

When it comes to text size, the regulations only focus on "readability" and not "legibility". Currently (January 2024), there are no specific requirements for character size. However, legibility is determined by technical standard DIN 1450, which considers factors like character size, contrast, print quality, and spacing.

As a general guideline, we recommend using a font size of 7 pt (Arial) since it meets the legibility criteria, with a minimum height of 1.8 mm for the letter "h". For smaller packaging (e.g., below 125 ml), you can use a smaller font size, but we suggest a minimum of 5 pt (Arial).

Label elements 13

Label size?



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Zinc Oxide (ZnO)

zerc axide, (EC 200 g



9271 Avoid release to the etukprovent, P391. Collect spillage. PS61 Dispose of contents and container to hazardous or special waste collection goint, in accordance with local, regional, national and/or international regulation

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Chelating agent

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Chemius



Primer 2,5 L

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Industrial cleaner

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Ethyl acetate

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DANGER: H225 Highly flammable May cause drowsiness or dizziness.

P210 Keep away from heat, hot sur smoking. P264 Wash hands thorou protection/face protection. P303 + all contaminated clothing. Rinse ski Remove person to fresh air and kee EYES: Rinse cautiously with water fr to do, Continue rinsing, P337 + P31

PELIGRO: H225 Líquido y vapores H336 Puede provocar somnolencia provocar sequedad o formación de P210 Mantener alejado del calor, d cualquier otra fuente de ignición. N DE CONTACTO P280 Lieva

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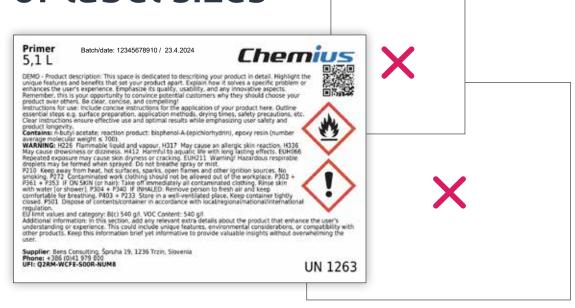
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Minimize the number of label sizes



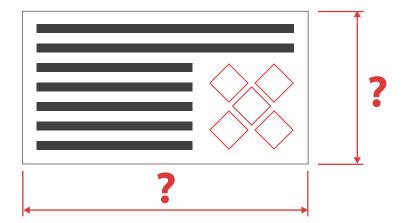
If you're aiming for maximum efficiency (and cost-effectiveness), it's best to stick with one label size for all your packaging.

Why? Well, you don't want your operators to keep switching label stock every time they print a different label. To keep things running smoothly, go for a **one-size-fits-all** approach. And if that's not doable, try to minimize the number of different label sizes you use.

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2.2

Determine the optimal label size



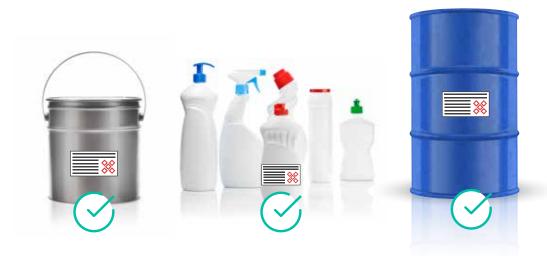
The size of the label depends on a few factors:

- The available area on the packaging unit.
- The number of pictograms this one's the trickiest.
- The size of pictograms.
- The amount of elements and text on the label.

But in the end, it all boils down to the number and size of the pictograms. They really have the most impact on your label.

Just remember: you can use bigger labels with larger pictograms on small packaging, but you can't use smaller-than-required pictograms on big packaging.

Define label sizes



Gather all the possible packaging units and measure the available area for the label on each one. The goal is to find a label size that fits all your packaging units or use as few label sizes as possible.

Just keep in mind:

- Changing label stock for different labels during the printing process can be quite time-consuming!
- The more different labels you have, the more it will cost for labels and printing.

Label size?

3

The hardware?



Next up, you gotta pick the hardware.

Which printer should you choose?

Well, here are a few things to consider:

- Printing width
- Printing color

The hardware 19

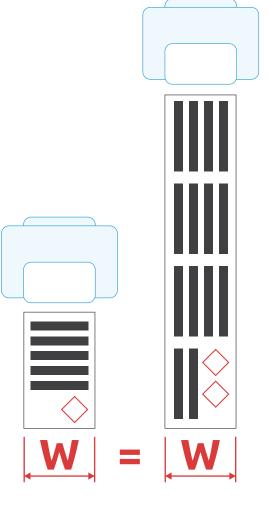
Printing width

When choosing a printer for your labels, it's important to make sure it's compatible with the size you need, especially the width.

Just remember, printers with wider printing areas tend to be pricier.

Professional label printers have limited width for printing, but the length is not an issue since they're designed for roll labels. This means you can print wider labels by changing their orientation. It's a handy feature when printing labels for drums or bigger cylindrical cans, like paint cans.

Oh, and don't forget to consider the available area on the different packaging units you defined earlier. Keep that in mind!



Printing color

When it comes to professional, large-scale printers, they usually use black ribbon for label printing. However, there are some models that support 2-color printing, with black and red options.

Sure, black-only printers are cheaper, but the ones with two colors offer more flexibility:



Pros

• Cheaper than 2-color printers

Cons

- You need to pre-print red frames for pictograms.
- Printer calibration is necessary when changing stock labels to align pictograms with pre-printed frames.



Pros

• Pre-printing red frames for pictograms is NOT required.



• Printer calibration is NOT necessary when changing stock labels to align pictograms with pre-printed frames.

Cons

Price

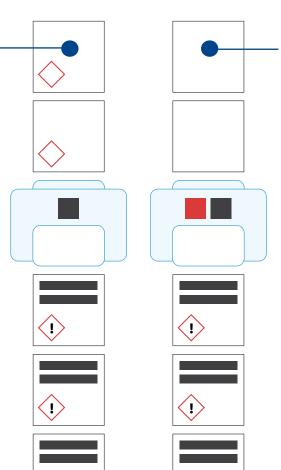
The hardware 21

Price vs. flexibility

If you can only print in black, you have to pre-print red frames for pictograms and carefully fit the black part into those frames by adjusting and calibrating your printer. It can be quite timeconsuming.

And if you need up to 4 pictograms on a label, you'll have to pre-print 4 red frames on the label stock.

Oh, and what if you suddenly need to print 5 or 6 pictograms on a label?



So, yes, 2-color printers are pricier, but they offer more flexibility. No need to pre-print red frames or adjust your printer.



Professional labeling software

You'll want some professional labeling software that can handle:

- creating different label templates and
- connecting them to external data sources.

This way, you can easily map data with the fields on your template and automate the label creation and printing process.

So far, we have tested Loftware's NiceLabel (minimum: Designer Pro) or Bartender (minimum: Professional). Both support everything you need for automating large-scale label printing.



Visit:

https://www.loftware.com/ NiceLabel is a trademark of Loftware Inc.



Visit:

https://www.seagullscientific.com/ BarTender is a trademark of Seagull Scientific, LLC.

One common mistake...

... we often see is companies using the right software but in the wrong way. Instead of creating templates and connecting them to the data source, they manually create and maintain labels.

This means they have to manually update labels whenever safety data sheets change. Not only is this incredibly time-consuming, but it also increases the chances of non-compliant labels.

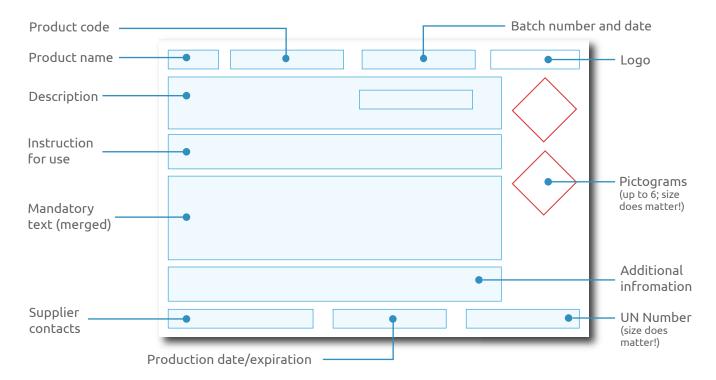
The software 25

4.3

Create a label template

Once you've determined which software best meets your needs, you're ready to embark on the creation of label templates. This task shouldn't pose much difficulty as you've already defined all the label elements in previous steps.

Begin by linking the label to the data source, and then craft a template that aligns with your vision. It's somewhat akin to utilizing the mail-merge feature in Microsoft Office, where you establish a connection between an Excel file and a Word form.



For Maximum Efficiency

In Chemius, you have multiple options at your disposal.

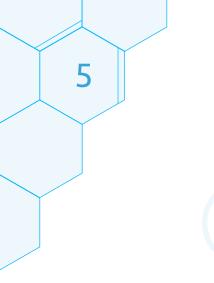
As a standard feature, you can effortlessly export your labeling data into a ready-to-use Excel file and seamlessly integrate it with your template. This way, you don't have to worry about the label content because we've got you covered.

If you prefer a direct connection to the database, simply let us know, and we'll gladly assist you in setting up automation.

And guess what? We also offer a collection of ready-to-use, battleproven label templates for NiceLabel. So, setting up your labeling automation will be a breeze.



The software 27





Dos & don'ts



DO

5.1

try to find a label size that fits all your packaging units.



5.2

DO

keep the labels in line with the Safety Data Sheet and Poison Centre Notifications!



DO

black-out excess pre-printed frames!



Dos & don'ts

Don't

print Safety Data Sheets!

Scan

the QR code to get the latest Safety Data Sheet on your mobile device!





Don't

make black-and-white pictograms.

DO

GHS/CLP Pictograms must be black with a red frame.



Dos & don'ts

ATA SHEET ACCORDING TO REGULATION (EIC) 1907/2906 Chemius t name: Chelsting agent. on diales: 15.04.2024, Revision: 16.04.2024, version: 1.6

Chelating agent

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22 Label ale Libelling



Signal word: DANGER

H090 May be comosive to metals. H302 Harmful if swallowed.

H314 Causes severe skin burns and eye damage

H332 Harmful if inhaled.

H3.73 May cause damage to organs through poslonged or repeated exposure.

P234 Keep only in original packaging.

PLAN Do not breathe dustliner[gat/must/lapours/torey PLAN Do not breathe dustliner[gat/must/lapours/torey PLAN West protective glowes/brotective distring/eye protection, flace protection, PLAN + PLAN + PLAN + SWALLOWED rome mouth, Do NOT induce variating.

P103 = P361 + P353 IF ON SKIN (or hair). Take off immediately all contaminated slothing. Rince skin with water for

Aboved: you in standaED, therefore person to heah an and keep coeffortable to breathing.

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SECTION 3. COMPOSITION/INFORMATION ON INCREDIENTS

3.1 Substances For mixtures see 3.2.

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Don't

print fewer pictograms than required! Ensure the label always aligns with the Safety Data Sheet!



Don't

Pictogram frames overlapping!

DO

No overlapping!





Dos & don'ts

Don't

make pictograms too small.

DO

Mind the size of the pictograms!



5.8

offset overprinted text and pictograms. This can happen when the pre-printed labels are not correctly aligned with the overprinted elements.



Chemius



Chelating agent

EN: Contains, tetrasodium othylene diamine tetrasi DANGER: H290 May be corrosive to metals. H3 swallowed H314 Causes severe skin burns an Harmful if inhaled, H373, May cause damage to prolonged or repeated exposure.

P234 Keep only is original packaging, P260 dust/fumergas/mist/vapours/spray P280 Wei 01 + plowes/protective clothing/eye protection/face be vomitting.
P333 + P331 # SWALLOWED inser mouth P303 + P361 + P353 IF ON SKIN (or heir). I ately all contaminated diothing. Remise skin with water 104 + P340 IF NN-N, ED. Remise's person to bresh a constortable for breathing. P305 + P351 + P334 Rinse cautiously with water for several minutes lenses, if present and easy to do. Continue rinsin immediately call a POISON CENTER or doctoripm spillage to prevent material damage. P405. Store to of contents/container in accordance with local/national

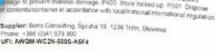
Supplier: Bens Consulting, Spruha 19, 1236 Trzin, Slovenia Phone: +386 (0)41 979 800 UFI: AWQM-WC2N-500S-A5F4

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ep only in original packaging. P260. Do not breathe Vgas/mist/vapours/spray, P280 Wear protective declive dotting/eye protection/face protection P301 + 151 IF SWALLOWED rose mouth. Do NOT induce vortiling sea + P3S3 IF ON SKIN (or hair). Take off immediately at ated clothing. Porse skin with water [or shower]. P004 + INHALED: Remove person to fresh air and keep able for breathing, P305 + P351 + P338 IF IN EYES subously with water for several minutes. Remove contact if present and easy to do. Continue trising P310. ediately cell a POISON CENTER or doctor/physician, P390 Absort age to prevent material damage P405 Store locked up P501 Dispose

Supplier: Bons Consulting, Spruha 19, 1236 Trzin, Słovenia Prione: +386 (0)41 979 800



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Chemin

5.9

Don't

use low-quality labels!

Labels must be firmly affixed to the packaging to prevent peeling.

The label material must be durable and adhere well to the packaging.



Summary

Here's a quick summary for developing an efficient automated labeling system:

- 1. Define label sizes
- 2. Pick the right hardware
- 3. Choose the right software
- 4. Create templates and link them to labeling data source

Remember:

- Content of the label
- Text size
- Suitable label materials and adhesives for your specific application

The End

We hope you've found this guide helpful in establishing your professional safety label printing system swiftly.

Should you have any further inquiries, we're just a message away.

Remember, Chemius is your go-to solution for seamless chemical management and label printing operations.

Here's to achieving compliance with ease and experiencing the least amount of friction and frustration in label printing.

Wishing you all the best!



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