

GHS LABELING GUIDE

This infographic reviews the different printing methods for a GHS labeling system. There are a number of different printing methods companies can use to print GHS-compliant labels. The challenges for businesses are to choose the best technology and system that fits the company's unique needs, and provides maximum return on investment (ROI). We consider the following important information when choosing your system:

- How it works
- Pros
- Cons
- When to consider

This simple overview will help you understand and evaluate which printing method is best for your needs.



Thermal Transfer (1 color) with Pre-Printed Labels

- How it works**
- Pre-printed labels with red pictogram borders
 - Print the "black" portion of the GHS label
- Pros**
- May already be present in your operations
 - Fast throughput
 - Lots of flexibility for specialty labels
 - Synthetic film labels for chemical resistance
 - Lower media costs compared to inkjet and laser
- Cons**
- Must maintain an inventory of pre-printed labels
 - Must ensure the correct diamond configurations
 - Frequent label roll changes

When to consider this option

- Very small number of product SKUs
- Products use the same label size and format
- A special custom label is required

Two Color Thermal Transfer with Blank Labels

- How it works**
- Dual printheads for the red and black ribbons
 - Pre-defined label formats in software
- Pros**
- No inventory of pre-printed labels
 - Less frequent label roll changes
 - Flexibility for label facestock
 - Synthetic film labels for chemical resistance
 - Lower media costs compared to inkjet and laser
 - Fast throughput
- Cons**
- More expensive than standard thermal transfer
 - Must carry 2x the inventory of printer ribbons
 - Ribbon changeover takes longer

When to consider this option

- Large number of product SKUs with different layouts and pictograms
- High volume of products that need to be labeled
- A special custom label is required

Laser (Monochrome) with Pre-Printed Labels

- How it works**
- Uses pre-printed labels with red pictogram borders
 - Print the "black" portion of a GHS-compliant label
 - Pictograms printed inside the red diamond borders
- Pros**
- Printers may be present in your operations
- Cons**
- Maintain an inventory of pre-printed laser labels
 - Excessive printer wear and maintenance costs
 - Frequent jams and break downs
 - Wasted labels and laser sheets
 - Slow throughput
 - Limited choice of labels for chemical exposure

When to consider this option

- Limited number of product SKUs at a low volume

Color Laser with Blank Labels

- How it works**
- Blank laser sheet labels are used
 - Software creates labels printed in full color
- Pros**
- No need for pre-printed label inventory
 - Printers may already be present in operations
- Cons**
- Equipment cost
 - Cost of color toner
 - Excessive printer wear and maintenance costs
 - Frequent jams and break downs
 - Wasted labels and laser sheets
 - Slow throughput
 - Limited choice of labels for chemical exposure

When to consider this option

- Limited number of product SKUs at a low volume
- Color laser printer can be used for other applications

Color Inkjet with Blank Labels

- How it works**
- Uses specially formulated ink cartridges
 - Uses special inkjet-receptive labels
 - Software creates labels in full color
- Pros**
- No need for pre-printed label inventory
 - Multiple labels can be printed without changing label rolls
 - No waiting time for image to dry
 - Durable and resistant to water and chemicals
 - Can use a variety of label sizes
 - Custom labels can be produced with this printer
 - Create color labels for use in other business applications
- Cons**
- Requires specialty labels
 - Cost of labels and ink
 - Slower print speeds
 - Ink waste during printer stop/start

When to consider this option

- Large number of SKUs with different label sizes, layouts and pictograms
- High volume of products
- BS5609 applications
- Applications for on-demand color labeling in other areas



Want more information?

Download our Buyer's Guide
www.general-data.com/ghs

This buyer's guide will help you understand and evaluate the different methods available for producing and printing GHS labels for your products, and walk you through everything you need to consider when building and implementing a GHS labeling system for your company.

This buyer's guide covers important GHS labeling topics such as:

- What Not To Do
- GHS Label Printing Technology Overview
- Specifying The Right Label
- Software and Integration Considerations
- Nine-Step Plan For Successful Implementation



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