

On October 9 2025, updates to the Radiation Emissions Devices Regulations (REDR) by Health Canada have taken into effect to align closely with the IEC 60825-1:2014 (Safety of Laser Products: Part 1 – Equipment classification and requirements). The REDR previously focused on laser scanners and demonstrations lasers only. The updates now will apply to all laser products for both research and non-research purposes (such as laser pointers) except for laser medical devices and laser replacement parts meeting specific criteria. As a result, laser products purchased must comply to the updated regulations on classification, engineering features, labeling and user information.

How do the updated REDR changes affect laser purchases?

Health Canada defines importers as the person bringing a laser product into Canada for any purpose. It is strongly recommended to purchase laser products from Canadian manufacturers, vendors or distributors as they are considered the importer and thereby are responsible to ensure the laser products are compliant with the REDR.

If UVic researchers and staff must purchase laser products from international manufacturers or vendors then UVic researchers and staff are defined as the importer and now are responsible to ensure the imported laser products are compliant with the REDR. Lasers not in compliance with the REDR are subject to seizures by Custom agents at the border.

When making a purchase, UVic researchers and staff must ensure from the manufacturer or vendor the laser products meet the following requirements:

- Laser product is classified into 1 of 8 hazard classes from 1, 1M, 1C, 2, 2M, 3R, 3B or 4.
- Compliance with appropriate built-in engineering safety features according to IEC standards
- Labelling and accompanying product information in both English and French meeting IEC standards (label examples shown on page 2)

OHSE (ohs@uvic.ca) can assist with UVic researchers and staff can assist in advance with planning to purchase laser products.

References

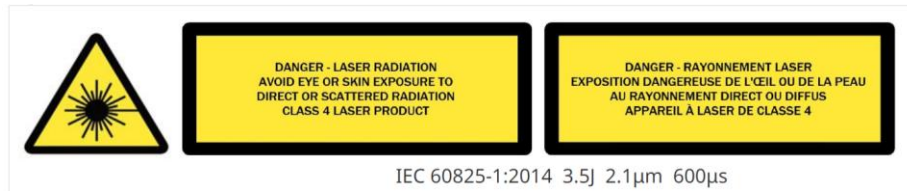
[Guidance for laser projects](#)

[Canadian Gazette, Part II, Volume 158, Number 21](#)

[Radiation Emitting Devices Regulations – Laser Products](#)

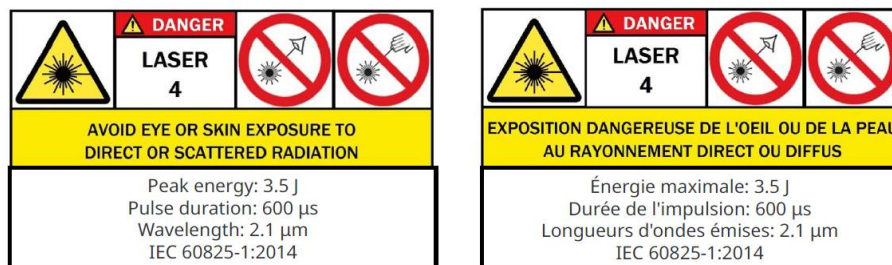
Examples of laser labels compliant with the IEC standards.

Option 1:



- ☒ laser hazard symbol (per IEC 7.1)
- ☒ explanatory (hazard class and warnings, per IEC 7.7)
- ☒ standard name & date (per IEC 7.9)
- ☒ maximum output
- ☒ emitted wavelength(s)
- ☒ pulse duration (if appropriate)
- ☒ in both English & French 

Option 2:



- ☒ alternative format
- ☒ standard name & date
- ☒ maximum output
- ☒ emitted wavelength(s)
- ☒ pulse duration (if appropriate)
- ☒ in both English & French 

**Images provided by the Consumer & Clinical Radiation Protection Bureau of Health Canada*