

**Data Sharing Obligation - Biocidal Products Regulation (EU)**  
**No 528/2012**

**Key messages**

- 1) To minimise testing involving vertebrate animals and the duplication of existing tests, one of the core principles of the Biocidal Products Regulation (EU) No 528/2012 (BPR) is the sharing of studies between applicants, where this is requested.
- 2) Existing and prospective applicants are required under BPR to make every effort to ensure that the cost of sharing the tests and studies requested are determined in a fair, transparent and non-discriminatory way.
- 3) Any prospective applicant is only required to share the costs for the information needed for its application.
- 4) Companies are advised to carefully record any communication with another party, as this may be requested by ECHA in the context of a data sharing dispute claim.
- 5) Any prospective applicant initiating a data sharing dispute procedure with ECHA must demonstrate the efforts made by all the parties to reach an agreement and must provide appropriate documentary evidence.
- 6) Data sharing dispute claims must be initiated as a last resort, i.e. only after all the possible efforts and arguments have been exhausted and the negotiations have eventually failed.
- 7) Any prospective applicant involved in a data sharing dispute must always obtain a decision from ECHA **before** submitting an application dossier.
- 8) Pending the processing of a data sharing dispute, ECHA encourages all negotiating parties to continue making every effort to reach an agreement.