

Working session B.4.1

9th Meeting of the Exchange Network on Exposure Scenarios (ENES9)

5-6 November 2015

Connecting existing risk management guidance/practice for workers to the REACH chemical safety assessment.

Objective:

To identify how to connect REACH risk management measures and existing exposure control measures derived from common occupational health and safety guidance like COSHH Essentials/EMKG, GISBAU safety advice or established practices in sectors.

Introduction:

The starting hypothesis is that good practice information on how to control exposure to chemicals in the workplace is available from a number of sources, including sector organisations, Member States and professional bodies.

The REACH process of communicating safe use information via exposure scenarios (and safety data sheets) is an opportunity to disseminate this good practice advice across a wider population of downstream users. For this to occur, the registrant needs to include reference to that advice in the CSR.

Topics for discussion include:

1. Can existing guidance on chemical risk management such as COSHH Essentials, GISBAU, Dutch workplace instruction cards, sector guidelines etc., be integrated into the REACH based communication in the supply chain, both for registrants and downstream users?
2. How are existing generic exposure scenarios linked to guidance/good practice and can this be further developed?
3. How can existing occupational risk management tools/guidance be translated to suitable inputs for the task/process based CSA in REACH?
4. Can integration be promoted with Safe Use of Mixtures Information (SUMIs), and their complementary SWEDs?

Format:

1. Introduction and short presentation with examples from BAuA project and further clarification as needed.
2. Exercise in translating information from COSHH/EMKG guidance sheets to TRA inputs.
3. Group and plenary discussion of the guidance systems available in countries/sectors and how participants have taken or could take these into account in communicating to registrants / registration / communicating to DUs.

Outputs:

1. To identify where there is greatest possibility for synergy.
2. To identify where gaps/difficulties exist in matching the task (process type) approach under REACH (with PROC assignment) to the occupational risk management guidance/practice.
3. To identify where further development is required, and how this could happen.