

REACH Review Actions

In 2018, the European Commission published the second REACH review. REACH Review Action 3 aims to improve the workability and quality of extended safety data sheets. Action 12.1 explores how to use REACH tools (e.g. exposure scenarios, Safety Data Sheets) to enhance the effectiveness of OSH legislation.

Industry sectors are encouraged to develop and use harmonised formats and IT tools that would provide more user-targeted information, simplify the preparation and use of extended safety data sheets and facilitate their electronic distribution.

The Commission will consider including minimum requirements for exposure scenarios for substances and mixtures in safety data sheets, and request ECHA to develop a methodology for safety data sheets of mixtures.

ECHA publishes up-to-date information on the progress made in REACH Review Actions at:

<https://echa.europa.eu/reach-review-action-3>



Twelfth meeting of the Exchange Network on Exposure Scenarios (ENES12) 21 November 2019

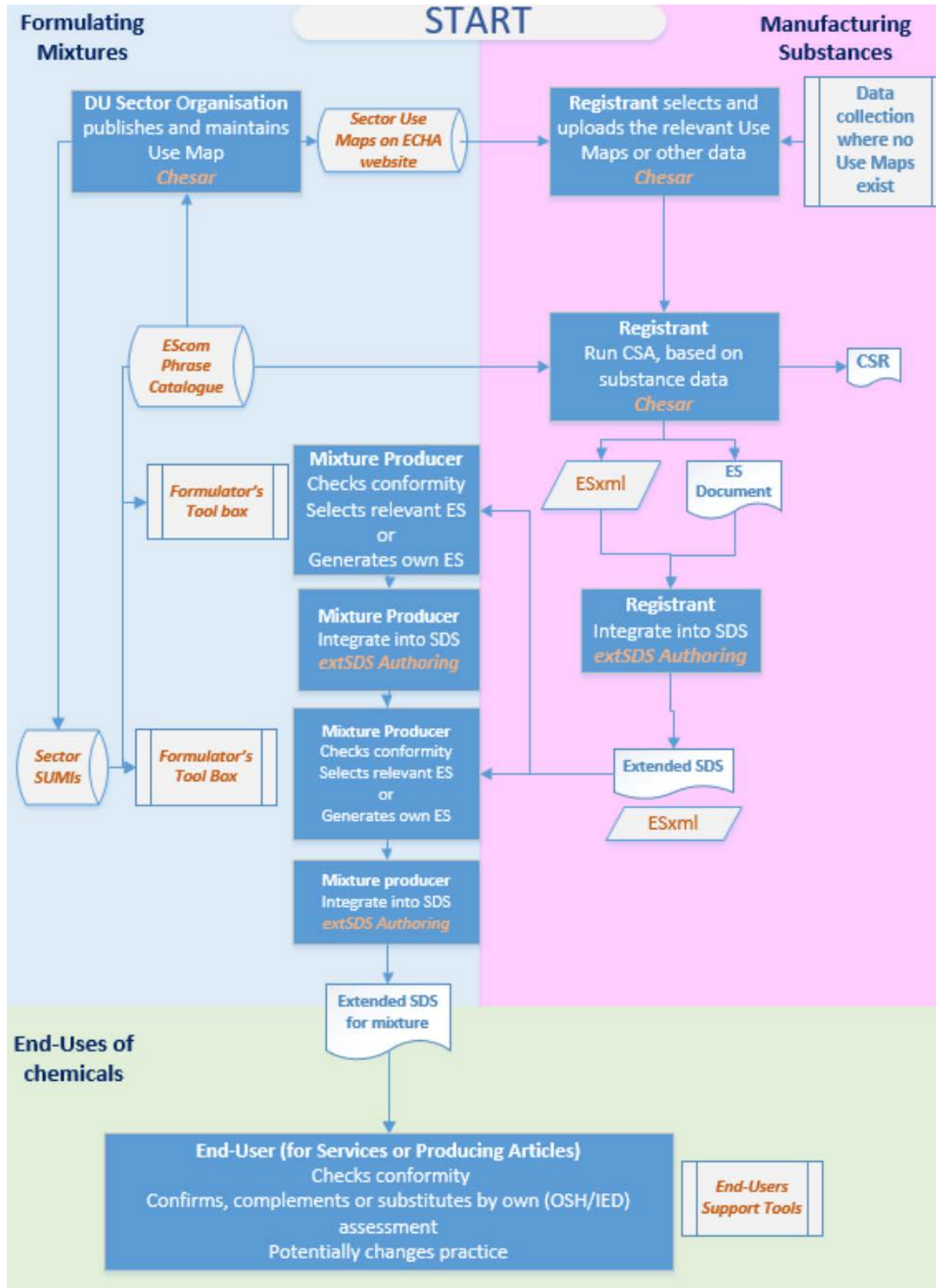
The Hotel, Brussels

Blueprint of a coherent system for generating, communicating and receiving safe use advice for hazardous chemicals

Draft document based on information collected during the scoping phase of
REACH Review Action 3 in 2019



Blueprint of the system's building blocks (not all fully in place yet)



Tools/standards are indicated in orange

Description of the building blocks

Building block	Description how it is intended to work
Registrant's Chemical Safety Assessment (CSA)	Registrants must assess all uses of a substance (they are aware of) during its lifecycle. The assessment is to be carried out with the method laid down in Annex I of REACH. Based on this assessment, registrants extend their Safety Data Sheets with an annex of exposure scenarios, describing the required risk management per use and its contributing activities. The outcome of the assessment is also sent as part of the registration dossier to the authorities in form of the Chemical Safety Report (CSR).
Chesar	Chemical Safety Assessment and Reporting Tool provided by ECHA to industry. Can be used by registrant's assessor for the safety assessment of a substance, or by sector organisations to make use maps available to registrants in electronic format.
Sector use maps	Use maps provide a systematic compilation of activities with chemicals and the related conditions of use in a market sector. The information is structured, and contains the information needed by registrants to carry out their Chemical Safety Assessment (CSA) with the available exposure modelling tools. A use map also contains the phrases for the communication of the required risk management measures with the extended safety data sheet. Where based on sector use maps, the exposure scenarios formulators receive for their ingredient substances will be more realistic and consistent across suppliers.
Sector SUMIs	Safe Use of Mixture Information (for end-use mixtures) is the analogue to an exposure scenario for a substance. It describes the conditions of safe use for the whole mixture, per use and per contributing activity. The SUMI layout and language is particular meant to be understood by SME end-users. Some downstream sectors provide SUMIs as a complement to the use-maps. Based on received exposure scenarios or own assessment formulators can select the SUMI matching their type and hazard profile of mixture.
ESCom Phrase catalogue	The catalogue of harmonised phrases is meant to ensure consistent "translation" of the chemical safety assessment outcomes into risk management advice for the industrial and professional users of chemicals. The catalogue is regularly updated with new or modified phrases. The catalogue of harmonised phrases is also the basis for exposure scenario electronic data transfer (digitalisation).
ESCom xml standard	The XML standard for exposure scenario data transmission has been developed to facilitate the electronic transfer of use-specific risk management advice from the registrant's CSA via the SDS authoring systems to the formulators of mixtures (and potentially further down the supply chain).
SDS authoring for registered substances	The outcome of the CSA is imported into the SDS authoring system, equipped with the functionalities to ensure consistency between C&L, DNELs/PNECs, SDS sections 7/8 and the exposure scenario annex. At the same time, the SDS authoring tool supports the transfer of exposure scenarios (and related information) to the next level in the supply chain in a form that it can be efficiently processed by the recipient.
Formulator's assessments	Formulators may produce mixtures for supply to another formulator or for supply to end users (industrial or professional). For the safety assessment of their mixture, they either check conformity with the exposure scenarios received from suppliers, or carry out a downstream user chemical safety assessment themselves. Subsequently the formulator compiles activity-specific advice on safe use to be included into the extended safety data sheet for the mixture.
Formulators' Tool Box	Formulators may apply a suite of tools to generate/process exposure scenarios and correct these to the existing SDS authoring systems for mixtures. This includes the Lead Component Identification Method (LCID), the SUMI selection method, substance in mixture downstream user safety assessment (DU CSR), or multiple component mixture CSA.
End users processing of safe use advice for chemicals¹	End users of chemicals (e.g. industries producing articles, construction and building companies or cleaning/repair services) need to assess/check whether or not their practice in the different activities with the chemical is in line with the risk management advice they receive in the safety data sheet. The supplier's risk management advice may significantly contribute to the OSH workplace risk assessment of the chemicals user.
¹ Requires engagement from OSH community. Examples from Forum's SDS quality improvement initiative and ENES projects can provide test cases.	