

CESIO

news

13

EUROPEAN COMMITTEE OF ORGANIC SURFACTANTS
AND THEIR INTERMEDIATES



September
2009

Foreword

Another year has gone by and all companies are in the throes of various consortia with the December 2010 deadline looming over the horizon. These activities are handled outside the boundaries of CESIO, some with external consultants, some under the Reach Centrum umbrella. Whilst these activities are handled outside CESIO, CESIO Core Team continues to examine the concerns/issues raised by member companies with regard to the implementation of REACH.

CESIO's Team is now settling with A Bouvy handling CESIO TRA and ERASM technical committees and C Delveaux handling CESIO LLNA Task-Force. L Lentulus decided to move on and her responsibilities within our team have been taken over by D Stevenson.

CESIO membership has seen some additional changes with INCHEMA (Portugal) joining as associate member, Schill & Seilacher joining TEGEWA and ERCA (Italy & Poland) joining and leaving both the Italian association and CESIO after refocusing their activities in REACH consortia.

The last 12 months have brought some positive developments to the Surfactants Industry with SCHER opinion on the anaerobic biodegradability and the subsequent Commission report on the revision of the Detergent Regulation. CESIO LLNA TF has made excellent progress with the recent publication of D Basketter's paper (Application of a weight of evidence approach to assessing discordant sensitisation datasets: Implications for REACH) in the Regulatory Toxicology and Pharmacology Journal, the granting of funds by LRI for the organisation of a workshop in February 2010 and conclusive comparative testing. CESIO GHS TF is now looking into some issues associated with the implementation of GHS especially for those substances which are not covered by REACH consortia.

In terms of future priorities for CESIO, Ecolabelling, with the revision of the ecolabelling legislation and IPPC (Integrated Prevention and Pollution Control) along with the revision of the LVOC (Large Volume Organic Chemicals) BREF are taking centre stage.

Communication remains a core priority of the Secretariat. Apart from the usual annual newsletter, it has been decided that CESIO and the national associations would produce a quarterly report on both European and national activities.

Last but not least, the next CESIO Congress, scheduled for 6th through to 11th June 2011, will be managed by CESIO Secretariat along with an Organising Committee composed of representatives from CESIO companies and national associations.

Once again, we thank all those who actively participate in CESIO working groups, task-forces and represent our association at meetings, thereby contributing to the reputation and recognition of our association as stakeholder.

Ch De Cooman
Secretary General

- 1 Foreword
- 2 8th World Surfactants Congress 2011
- 3 REACH Analytical Task Force and CEN standardisation
- 5 CLP Regulation (GHS)
- 6 European Detergent Regulation – Developments in 2009
- 8 The LLNA and regulatory sensitisation testing
- 9 HERA
- 9 ERASM
- 11 CESIO Surfactants' Statistics
- 11 SDA
- 12 CED 40 Annual Conference
- 12 Congress and LLNA Workshop
- 13 CESIO Members 2009



“Sustainable and Innovative Surfactants in a Highly Regulated World” 8th World Surfactants Congress Scheduled for 6th to 11th June 2011, Vienna L Yueksel, President

After the success of the CESIO 2008 congress in Paris, in June 2008, CESIO Executive Committee set up a task-force to discuss the various options offered to Industry. Some conclusions came out of the task-force. First of all, it became clear that national associations would no longer be in a position to host future congresses due to the increasing globalisation of their members. Moreover, whilst Industry was still committed to CESIO congress, its format no longer met the expectations of CESIO member companies who were keen to have more opportunities for business meetings also resulting in reducing the time between two congresses.



As a consequence of these conclusions, it was agreed that the next CESIO congress would be held in June 2011 although future congresses would be held at an interval of two years (or possibly on a yearly basis). MCI, the company who supported ASPA in the organisation of June 2008, were retained after a thorough selection process. CESIO Secretariat (Ch De Cooman along with D Stevenson) are involved in the organisation of the congress along with an Organising Committee (OC). A Föller & Ch Séné, both experienced in the organisation of congresses, are active members of CESIO 2011 Organising Committee. B Brancq has kindly accepted to provide support to the OC especially in view of his long experience within Industry.

The format of the congress will differ slightly from previous years providing more time for business meetings whilst still offering to scientists/regulatory people the scientific programme which has given CESIO congress the world-wide recognition it has acquired over the years.

Companies will have the possibility of reserving small booths and/or hospitality suites, according to their needs.

Last but not least, CESIO TRA is in the process of setting up the Scientific Committees which will develop the content of the various sessions, launch the calls for papers and review the abstracts.

A new format for CESIO Congress which, it is hoped, will attract even more participants.

We rely on the support of CESIO national associations and members to promote this congress within and outside Europe in order to make it a success for all.

REACH Analytical Task Force and CEN Standardisation

Ch Séné

Standardisation

Standardisation is a valuable tool allowing external recognition of methodology by customers and competent authorities as well as providing a 'common language' in the description of product characteristics. Our industry has the chance to have a CEN Committee dedicated to this mission. In a World of higher regulation and World commerce, these capabilities are worth safeguarding.

The "CESIO Analytical Task Force" has the mission to review the analytical needs of our industry in terms of method development, optimisation, harmonisation and standardisation as well as to support ad-hoc CESIO projects such as REACH or ERASM. The ultimate step in the process of analytical method development is CEN* standardisation (*European Committee for Standardisation, the Organisation

responsible for issuing European norms for 30 EU and EFTA countries) which is only initiated when it is deemed valuable for our industry. The decision to go for CEN standardisation has been reviewed and finally approved by CESIO TRA Committee under proposal of the CESIO Analytical TF.

The Secretariat of CEN/TC276 is held by AFNOR (France) (AFNOR/T73A) and is composed of two Working Groups: WG-1 'Analysis' and WG-2 'Test methods'. It is worth noting that the international committee on Surface active agents (ISO/TC 91), which has been inactive for several years, will meet in Tokyo in Nov. 2009 to reactivate its activities and establish Working Groups. The schematic organisation for our standardisation is on the Figure below.

WG 1: 'Analysis'

Norm published in 2008

EN 15608:2008 "Surface active agents – Quantitative determination of free fatty acid in alkylamidopropylbetaines – Gas-chromatographic method".

Norms being developed

prEN ISO 2870 "Surface active agents – Detergents. Determination of anionic-active matter hydrolysable and non-hydrolysable under acid conditions"

prEN ISO 8799 "Surface active agents – Sulphated ethoxylated alcohols and alkylphenols – Determination of content of unsulphated matter"

Norms under systematic review

EN 12139:1999 "Surface active agents – Determination of the total polyethylene glycol content of non-ionic surface active agents (EO adducts) by HPLC/GPC"

EN 12974:1999 "Surface active agents – Determination of the 1,4-dioxane content in alkyl-ethoxy-sulfate products by GLC/head space procedure"

EN 12582:1999 "Surface active agents – Determination of the polyethylene glycol content according to molar mass in non-ionic surface active agents (ethoxylated) by HPLC/ELSD"

EN 14480:2004 "Surface active agents – Determination of anionic surface active agents – Potentiometric two-phase titration method"
And possibly EN 14669:2005 "Surface active agents – Determination of anionic surface active agents and soaps in detergents and cleansers – Potentiometric two-phase titration method"

WG-2 'Test methods'

Norm published in 2008

None

Norms being developed

prEN 15647 "Surface active agents – Determination of the dispersing effect of surfactants on powder" (publication by Q4-2009)

prEN 12829 "Surface active agents – Preparation of water with known calcium and magnesium hardness". Three new projects are under consideration

Norms under systematic review

Contact angles: The working group do not intend to prepare a standard but a technical report in which the parameters influencing the result and the set of difficulties will be described.

Dynamic behaviour of surfactants.

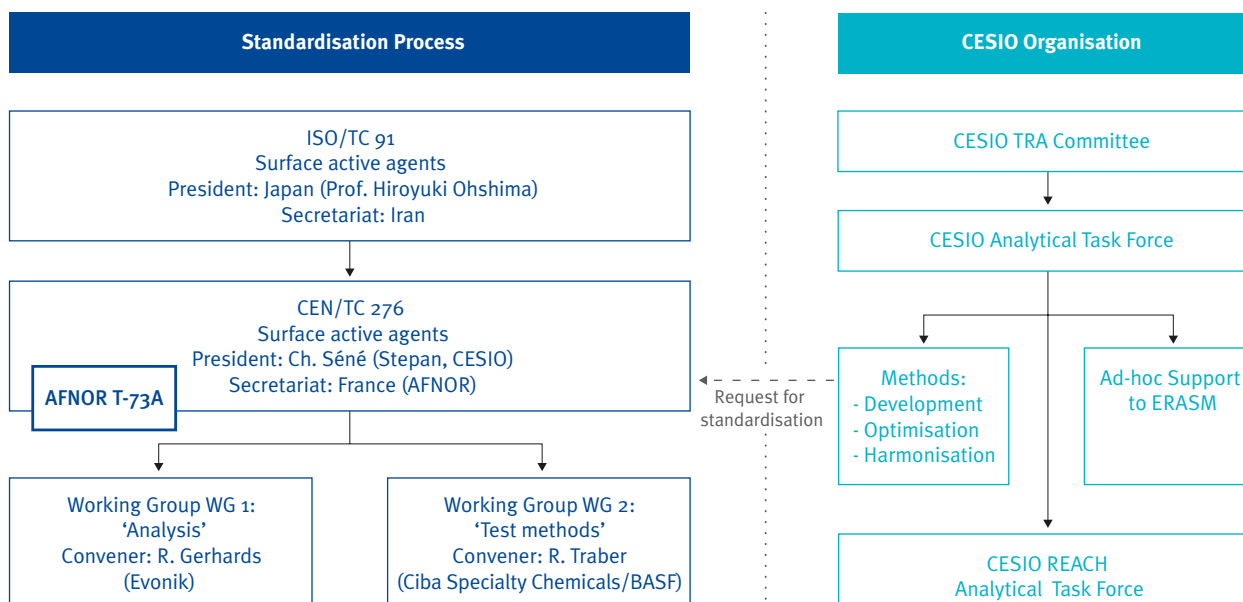
Determination of CMC with automatic Equipments

REACH

The “CESIO Analytical Task Force” has been working since 2007 to support REACH implementation. The so-called “CESIO REACH Analytical Task Force”, chaired by Reinhard Gerhards (Evonik), has the challenge to guide the REACH consortia towards a harmonised approach for the analytical information of the CSA/CSR: thus the TF deals with (i) the identification of the substances and (ii) the determination of impurities. The TF has reviewed for each REACH consortium the identification requirements (NMR, IR, HPLC, GC...). The idea is to achieve the highest level of harmonisation within the consortia (i.e. between consortium members) and between the different consortia (i.e. the same level of details in the analysis). Concerning the impurity side, the TF and the Consortia need to work together since Regulatory experts are the ones who know which impurities have to be listed. Interactions between the TF and the REACH consortia are in progress.

Because we are dealing with industrial-grade materials and with chemicals which are by nature based on a chain length distribution, the spectroscopic and chromatographic profiles of our surfactants could be extremely complex and each ‘peak’ of the profile could not be identified. Variation between methodologies can even add to the confusion by providing different profiles for identical surfactants. This could obviously generate questions on the presence of impurities and the appropriateness of substance grouping. A purist approach (e.g. by an evaluator) of the Analytical section can therefore lead to endless questions and requests for refined – time-consuming & expensive – analytical tests. A harmonised approach to the analytical section with the adequate level of details is therefore critical for the success of the REACH dossier (especially in case of evaluation) and remains the best option for the surfactant industry.

Figure. Relationship between CESIO Analytical Task Force, CEN/TC276 and ISO/TC91.



CLP Regulation (GHS) C Cornet

Today we can speak about the CLP Regulation as the EU version of the Globally Harmonised System of Classification and Labelling (GHS). This is because by end 2008 the CLP was published in the DOE (Regulation 1272/2008 published on 31 December, 1355 pages) with an implementation date of 20 of January 2009. Now what we said last year as being “expected” or “believed” has become “real” and “definitive”.

1. Remarks on the Regulation

The dates of the **different phases** are clearly defined:

1. Phase I (20 January 2009 till 1 December 2010).
For substances and mixtures: existing system (67/548/EEC) is binding, CLP is optional. In case of following this Regulation, labelling should follow the CLP (67/548/EEC shall not apply for labels).
2. Phase II (1 December 2010 till 1 June 2015).
CLP for substances is mandatory although SDS must contain BOTH (67/548/EEC and this Regulation). Mixtures must follow the existing system (1999/45/EC), being CLP optional but if they follow CLP this should be applied for labelling.
3. Phase III. Transition Period finalised.
CLP is obligatory and the current system (67/548/EEC and 1999/45/EC) loses its legal status.

This Regulation is applied irrespective of the volume of the substance (not only those in the scope of REACH register), meaning that any amount **placed on the market** is under the scope of this Regulation. Of course polymers shall also need to be considered.

Guidelines. We wrote last year: “It is expected at the time of writing this document (May 2008), that the publication of the RIP 3.6 will surely help all of us on the criteria interpretation”. Just as these notes were being written, the announcement of the publication of the two guidelines arrived. Module 1 (117 p.) is a short user-friendly guidance intended for industry on basic features and procedures, prepared in the form of a downloadable print document. Module 2 (528 p.) is a comprehensive indepth guidance document containing different sections: use of chemical categorisation and QSAR(s), setting of specific concentration limits, use of Annex VII translation tables, labelling including practical examples of labelling... Both documents can be found in: http://guidance.echa.europa.eu/docs/guidance_document/clp_en.htm?time=12. Also a very useful Q&A document has been published by ECHA (http://echa.europa.eu/classification/clp_guidance_en.asp) that indeed will help all of us.

A key point on this arena is the mandatory requirement to supply to ECHA the classification of all substances on the scope. Thus an open Data Base will be created at the EU level: **Classification and Labelling Inventory**. In fact REACH Regulation states that from 1st June 2008 companies could supply ECHA with C&L information on any material introduced into the market. At the time of writing this, the application via REACH-IT to notify for the inventory is currently under design (ECHA speaks on the need to fill in about 200 IUCLID fields for one notification). A group of manufacturers or importers (e.g. CESIO) placing a substance on the market could be the notifier, doing the things easier although today we do not know the practical way on how to proceed. The notification is not necessary if the related information has already been submitted as part of a REACH registration dossier

Do not confuse the official **harmonisation** that refers only to CMR and Respiratory Sensitisers (R42) with a mandate to harmonise by the industry all other substances. In fact we should speak about “agreed entries” more than harmonised ones (article 41: “notifiers shall make every effort to come to an agreed entry”). Having no indication of any final date for completion of such an agreement, this remains just as good advice with all the consequences for not doing so.

Classification should be based on the hazards resulting from intrinsic properties based on currently acceptable and available data. No test requirement is directly required by CLP (article 8.1) for human and environmental properties. Concerning Biodegradation the good news for our sector is that the 10 day window is not applicable for surfactants, thanks to the efforts made by industry (AISE, CEFIC and CESIO)

Last but not least do not forget the impact on downstream Directives and Regulations, the need for internal training or re-localisation of materials according to new scenarios, how to solve the logistic on labelling as well as other key items.

2. CESIO efforts for the implementation

In CESIO TRA it has been discussed at length how to support our members for the compliance of this Regulation, being REACH collapsing the majority of our resources. At the end of last year a group of Tox and Ecotox CESIO experts was created. This group in fact has not started to do real work due to concerns of available industry efforts. Let's keep this group in stand by for support in the following steps. Recently a CESIO CLP CORE team has also been created as support body for implementation aspects.

European Detergent Regulation – Developments in 2009

M E Williams

Besides these groups, it has been decided to make a double approach. The HPV surfactants (High volume surfactants that a CESIO consortium has created for a joint REACH registration by 2010) will take care of each Consortium itself. For the others, let's call "Non REACH Phase I Surfactants", a survey has already been done. After this survey, it has been identified that the main families of real interest to the CESIO members is existing. As well a possible Co-ordinator Company (CC) for majority of such families has been set up. After final agreement on CC assignments, the next steps shall consist of collection of end points and proposals from CCs on tentative C&L. Final agreements should be collected by CESIO. Of course, the already created group should support any unsolved points and questions.

A substantial number of volunteers from our companies have already offered to be in one of the mentioned groups or to be a contact window for the work. Nevertheless any additional support is welcomed for any aspect of the starting work.

3. Final remarks

Implementation all over the globe has gone up. Besides Japan and New Zealand, it seems that the EU will be the first large area of full implementation. In any case, with REACH running in parallel we are far from a steady situation for our Regulatory Departments

The European Detergent Regulation (EC) No 648/2004 has been in force across the European Union since 8 October 2005 and has featured in previous CESIO NEWS publications (9-11) covering issues such as those associated with the biodegradability of surfactants and communicating compliance along the supply chain. The guidance documents generated by industry in order to facilitate the communication and compliance processes remain accessible via the European Commissions website: http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/chemicals/legislation/detergents/index_en.htm.

Biodegradation continues to be a major feature of the Detergent Regulation, including the areas mandated for review. Article 16(2) of Detergent Regulation lays down that "by 8 April 2009, the Commission shall carry out a review of the application of this Regulation, paying particular regard to the biodegradability of surfactants, and shall evaluate, submit a report on, and where justified, present legislative proposals relating to:

- anaerobic biodegradation;
- the biodegradation of main non-surfactant organic detergent ingredients."

The Commission has now submitted its reports to the European Parliament and Council on:

- anaerobic biodegradation (COM (2009) 230 final, Brussels 26.5.2009) and
- biodegradation of main non-surfactant organic detergent ingredients (COM (2009) 208 final, Brussels 4.5.2009) full copies of which are available on the website referenced above.

In order to be able to prepare these reports and any proposals for amendment to the legislation, the Commission has needed to consult with its Scientific Committee on Health and Environmental Risks (SCHER), so that any studies submitted by industry, NGOs or sponsored by the Commission could be evaluated as part of the review process.

SCHER's opinion on anaerobic biodegradation

Due to the lack of any new evidence, SCHER did not change the conclusions of its 2005 opinion that

- poor biodegradability under anaerobic conditions is not expected to produce substantial modifications in the risk for freshwater ecosystems as the surfactant removal in the waste water treatment plant will be regulated by its aerobic biodegradability
- the requirement for ready and ultimate biodegradability under anaerobic conditions is not by itself regarded as an effective measure for environmental protection.

In addition SCHER believes that the existing OECD methods for anaerobic biodegradation together with the simulation test currently under revision provide an appropriate methodology for the assessment of the anaerobic biodegradability of organic compounds.

The subsequent Commission report (COM (2009) 230 final, Brussels 26.5.2009) submitted to the European Parliament and Council has therefore concluded: "Following a systematic evaluation of the risks from the presence of non-degradable surfactants in various anaerobic compartments, it was concluded that, in contrast to the adverse effects observed in the absence of aerobic degradation, the lack of anaerobic degradation does not seem to be correlated to any apparent risk for these environmental compartments. It can therefore be concluded that anaerobic biodegradability should not be used as an additional pass/fail criterion for the environmental acceptability of surfactants which are readily biodegradable under aerobic conditions."

This conclusion means that the Commission does not intend to propose additional legislation relating to the non-anaerobic degradation of surfactants. The compliance requirement continues to be for ultimate aerobic biodegradation of surfactants used in detergent formulations.

Following a similar review process, the separate Commission report on the biodegradation of main non-surfactant organic detergent ingredients (COM (2009) 208 final, Brussels 4.5.2009) has concluded that "the concept of using biodegradability as an acceptance criterion for detergent ingredients has become redundant in light of comprehensive risk assessment data on the environmental toxicity of the substances." Again this conclusion means that the Commission does not intend to propose additional legislation relating to biodegradation of non-surfactant organic detergent ingredients.

As reported in CESIO NEWS 12 (Anaerobic Biodegradability), CESIO, ECOSOL and ERASM have all played a major role in presenting information on anaerobic biodegradation to the EU Detergent Working Group and making sure that this information was made available to SCHER for review and formation of their final opinion to the Commission. This has proved to be an excellent example of what can be achieved through cooperation and transparent communication of results between the various stakeholders.

The LLNA and Regulatory Sensitisation Testing

A Mehling

An integral part of hazard and safety assessments for consumer and occupational health is the estimation of a chemical's potential to cause allergic contact dermatitis. Within the European Union, the new chemicals legislation on the registration, evaluation, authorization and restriction of chemicals (REACH) requires the submission of information on human health effects of chemicals. With few exceptions, all substances registered in accordance with REACH will require skin sensitizing data. Within the framework of REACH, the local lymph node assay (LLNA; OECD 429) is the preferred method for generating data on skin sensitizing potential. Use of other methods, including the traditionally used guinea pig tests (GPT, OECD 406), may only be performed under exceptional circumstances when sufficient scientific justification warrants their use. With the increased use of the LLNA, the number of unexpected, primarily positive, results has also increased.

In order to gain a better understanding of this situation and to lay the ground for scientific evaluations, a number of projects have been conducted:

- Member companies of CESIO and CES collated reports with historical sensitisation test data on their substances. These were reviewed and summarized in a report by TNO. Some of this data was also published (see below).
- The European Foundation for Cosmetic Ingredients (EFFCI) initiated comparative testing for unsaturated compounds, e.g. fatty acids using the LLNA and GPTs.
- CESIO also initiated comparative testing program using the LLNA and GPTs to assess surfactants representative of those available on the market today.

Evaluation of the data has identified a disproportionately large number of unexpected positive results that occur when testing substances such as surfactants, fatty acids or fatty alcohols in the LLNA. To date, 6 of 9 fatty acids/related substances (66.6%), 14 of 26 surfactants (53.8%) and 3 of 3 fatty alcohols have yielded discordant results. In almost all cases the LLNA would lead to the classification "sensitizer (R43)" whereas the GPT would not lead to classification.

To increase the awareness of this issue among the scientific and regulatory community, including those in the process of developing non-animal alternative methods, data has been presented at major scientific conferences and meetings. In addition, a paper authored by D. Basketter and CESIO member companies titled "Application of a weight of evidence approach to assessing discordant sensitisation data sets: Implications for REACH" will be published by the peer-reviewed journal *Regulatory Toxicology and Pharmacology*. CESIO, along with LRI (Long-range Research Initiative) sponsorship, has also initiated a workshop with the working title "Applicability of sensitisation test methods for regulatory purposes". This is due to take place sometime in the first quarter of 2010 and will allow us to share information and experience made with sensitisation methods and to gain insights into the applicability domains of these tests. Industry specialists, academics and regulatory representatives will be invited to take part.

The LLNA is a 3R method which reduces animal stress and should therefore be used where possible. Yet, both over and underestimation of sensitizing potentials can have a major impact on occupational and consumer safety. The above mentioned actions will hopefully help set the stage for defining the best possible methods for a reliable prediction of the sensitizing potential of a chemical and use of this information to make robust risk assessments. In this context, it is also important to stress that an accurate data base is needed to develop and validate satisfactory non-animal alternatives for sensitisation testing – the ultimate goal.

HERA J Rosenblom

The Human and Environmental Risk Assessment (HERA) on ingredients of household cleaning products, a unique European partnership established in 1999 between the makers of household cleaning products (A.I.S.E.) and the chemical industry (Cefic) to which CESIO made a large contribution is coming to an end.



Detailed information and reports on the HERA Risk Assessment programme for surfactants is available at www.heraproject.com. With the exception of the ongoing Risk Assessments of three surfactants still to be finalized, future activities of HERA will be focused around communication.

Completed HERA Risk Assessments on Surfactants	Date of Publication
Alcohol ethoxysulphates	Feb. 2003 & June 2004
Alkyl Sulphate	March 2002 & Dec. 2002
Cocamidopropyl betaine	July 2005 (Human Health section only)
Hydrotropes	September 2005
Linear Alkylbenzene Sulphonate (LAS)	May 2004
Secondary alkane sulfonate (SAS)	April 2005
Alcohol Ethoxylates	August 2007

Pending HERA Risk Assessments	Estimated Date of Publication
Amine oxides	End 2009 – early 2010
Exists an OECD SIAR and a paper on risks to the environment)	Accepted for publication
Cocamidopropyl betaine	End 2009 – early 2010
Ester Quats	End 2009
Preliminary report on ENV	Published
Report on HH	Under final endorsement

ERASM J Rosenblom

ERASM, Environmental Risk Assessment and Management, is the joint research platform between detergents and surfactant manufacturers represented by their associations AISE and CESIO. ERASM has proven a successful pioneer of a science-based supply chain cooperation since its inception in 1991.

Up to now, ERASM's objective was to improve and enlarge the scientific basis for and the knowledge related to risk assessment of detergent-based surfactants in the environment.

In 2008, both CESIO Executive Committee and AISE Management Committee decided to extend the scope of ERASM to include Human Health issues. This was subsequently confirmed by ERASM Steering at their meeting on 13th January 2009.

On 26th March 2009, a kick-off meeting was held as a face-to-face meeting with experts in Brussels. In this meeting the discussions among the experts present lead to the identification of issues, a ranking and prioritisation of those issues as follows:

- Safety Factors under REACH – a scientific basis for modification
- Classification Criteria – Draize (eye corrosivity/irritation)
- Reprotoxicity testing strategies
- Mapping of other activities
- LLNA/Human data
- Pristine (transfer from ERASM Environment TC to ERASM Human Health TC in July 2009).

Project leaders were appointed for the first three projects whilst the fourth project is dealt with by CESIO who have a TF set up and running. Since then issue sheets have been developed by the project leaders, presented to and approved by ERASM Steering at its 2nd July 2009 meeting.

Two of the projects have been initiated without further delay since the intention is to conclude both these projects by the end of 2009 for further input either into the REACH and/or GHS process, hence the urgency of these projects combined with the timely identification of the relevant experts to carry out these projects :

- Safety factors under REACH – a scientific basis for modification (Simone Hoffman-Doerr)
- Classification criteria – Draize test (Carlos Rodriguez/ Pauline McNamee).

The Reprotoxicity testing strategies project (Nicholas Ball), due to other priorities (REACH), has made little progress. A first draft of the issue sheet has been issued on 1st July, presented to ERASM Steering Committee on 2nd July and further discussed by ERASM Human Health TC at its telephone conference on 28th July 2009.

The fourth project, Pristine Project, formerly led by G Veenstra, has been transferred to ERASM Human Health TC for further handling.

The global project of “Mapping of other activities” has been undertaken by all members of ERASM Human Health TC in order to ensure that whatever work is identified by the TC is not already dealt with in another sector of activity and/or to benefit from other experiences.

Extending the scope of ERASM to include Human Health issues will also require staffing ERASM with experts from A.I.S.E. & CESIO member companies. A new Technical Committee on Human Health has been set up in addition to the existing Technical Committee on Environment, both committees reporting to the ERASM Steering Committee. Call for these experts will be made in due time. Industry should recognise the potential benefits of these projects and are encouraged to respond to these calls for support.

The ERASM Steering Committee also decided in the 2nd July meeting to keep the acronym ERASM, but modify the meaning to “Environment & Health Risk ASsessment and Management” as a consequence of the enlarged scope.

In the area of environment two new projects was approved by ERASM Steering at its 2nd July 2009 meeting. These are,

- Surfactant Carbon Footprinting (SCF) – Pilot Phase
The project aims at updating (in terms of accuracy, completeness, and consistency) the existing LCI databases for the production of surfactants and their main precursors, as developed by the various suppliers. The possibility to generate new inventories for surfactants not covered in the study of the early nineties will be explored.
- Cationic surfactant bioavailability in sediments
The objective of the project is to give a better understanding of the bioavailability and partition behaviour of cationic surfactants in sediments. The project is a continuation of the Steven Droge project with AE in marine sediments.

New projects already up an running are,

- Anaerobic Biodegradation (II) test methodology – Ring Test
- Summary marine exposure and effects data
To collate currently available and relevant information on exposure (water/sediments) and in marine ecosystems for the following surfactants groups: LAS, AS, AE, AES and DTDMAC.

Ongoing projects,

- Alcohol Sourcing II
- Marine Sediment Risk Assessment – CEFAS
- Anaerobic Degradation (I) – follow up on SCHER opinion Nov. 2008

Closed/closing projects,

- Biotransformation
- RISICO
- MonitoringBase Surfactants

CESIO Surfactants' Statistics

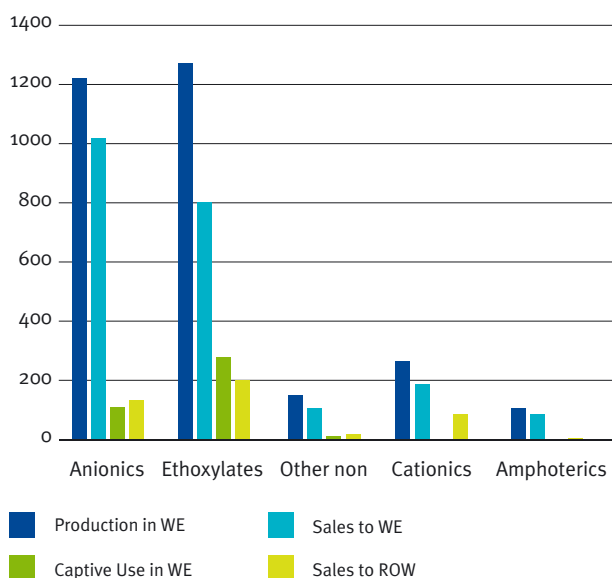
C D Hager

Over the course of the years the CESIO surfactants statistical survey has made considerable progress. For the calendar year 2008, 30 Western European companies, representing more than 90% of the European surfactants market, submitted confidentially their data to the Cefic statistics department. The aggregated data show now a good, reliable summary on the European surfactants market.

A very brief summary of the surfactants statistics is shown below. The much more detailed summary containing the breakdown by surfactants groups will be made available to those member companies only, which have actively contributed to the survey.

The data below cover the period 2008 and reflect volume expressed as 100% active substances. In contrast to last years the market declined by 1%.

Surfactants 2008: 2.98 mio tons



Ecolabelling

Ch De Cooman – Ch Séné

Since last year the revision of the ecolabelling Regulation has been initiated. The proposal for the revision of the EU Ecolabel regulation addresses the 'sustainable production' part of the Sustainable Consumption and Production/Sustainable Industrial Policy Action Plan, which was presented by the European Commission on 16 July 2008. Although the proposed ecolabelling regulation was adopted by the European Parliament on 2nd April, the proposal will not be officially adopted until Autumn 2009 bearing in mind the recent European elections and the renewal of the Commission. New criteria will have to be endorsed by both the European Parliament and the Council. However there are few chances that changes might occur since the three European institutions agreed on the text.

The proposed revision of the Community eco-label award scheme maintains the voluntary aspect of the scheme and underlines the label of excellence approach.

The main changes introduced by the proposal are:

- More product groups/quicker criteria development process /product group development by the Commission
- Reduction of annual fees
- Simplification of assessment procedure
- More focus on the most significant environmental impacts of products, while keeping the ambition levels high

Other changes include:

- Simplifying criteria documents: ensure they are more user-friendly and incorporate guidance for Green Public Procurement
- Designing the Regulation to fit better with other sustainable production and consumption actions (e.g. allow for the development of criteria as part of wider eco-design/EuP projects, not always as stand alone exercise and use criteria as a guide for future minimum environmental performance standards)
- Introducing measures to encourage harmonisation with other ecolabel schemes (where Ecolabel criteria are in place, national schemes developing the same product group for the first time must use them as a standard)
- Opening up the scope of the label (to cover all products apart from those covered by organic labelling)

On 2nd April 2009, the European Parliament voted the proposed revision with the following amendments :

A compromise amendment has been adopted (Art. 2 2a) reading that an ecolabel may not be awarded to products containing substances or preparations that are classified as very toxic,

CED 40 Annual Conference

toxic, dangerous to the environment, carcinogenic, mutagenic or toxic for reproduction (CMR) nor to substances (of very high concern) referred to in Article 57 of REACH. Basically this is a group of several tens of thousand substances (not even counting preparations). The consequence of this amendment is that a very high number of products would not be eligible for an ecolabel as they contain such substances or preparations. The Commission will be empowered to grant derogations if substitution is not technically feasible or if product has significantly higher overall environment performance compared to other goods of the same category (→ restores life-cycle approach).

This amendment is in clear contradiction to the adoption of amendments stressing the need for criteria to be based on a full life cycle assessment as the compromise amendment sets product restrictions. This will not help to achieve the overarching aim of the Ecolabel scheme to improve environmental performance. Moreover, it is based on intrinsic properties not on the risks that may be associated with the use of such substances. Such risks are adequately assessed and managed through REACH.

Also an amendment has been adopted to require an analysis of products not containing these substances (encouraging substitution).

On the positive side, the same compromise amendment allows the Commission to grant derogations from this prohibition.

Another positive outcome is the adoption of the compromise amendment on the need to set criteria in such a way that 'normally between 10% and 20% of the products meet the criteria' of best performing products.

Again on the positive side, our amendment (Am. 33) to improve the text of recital 4 has been adopted: the criteria 'should be based on scientific evidence, taking into consideration the latest technological developments. Those criteria should be market-oriented and limited to the most significant environmental impacts of products during their full lifecycle.'

An amendment has been adopted that allows companies to register in any Member State, as well as a need to harmonize registration.

On the negative side, an amendment has been adopted that in public procurement of products for which ecolabel criteria exist, those products shall as a minimum meet the criteria for the European ecolabel. Also an amendment (Am. 36) to take existing legislation into account has been rejected.

14 and 15 April 2010

Venue: Hotel Alimara
Berruguete, 126
08035 Barcelona
Spain

Scientific Programme

(simultaneous translation in English and Spanish):

Plenary lectures presented on specific scientific and technical topics:

- raw materials
- synthesis and analysis
- new developments and applications
- physico-chemistry
- environment
- legislation
- markets
- consumption/distribution

For further information, please refer to:

www.cedmeeting.com

Congress and LLNA Workshop

The 8th World Surfactants Congress is scheduled for 6 - 11 June 2011 in Vienna, Austria and the theme will be “Sustainable and Innovative surfactants in a highly regulated world”.

CESIO, along with LRI (Long-range Research Initiative) sponsorship, has also initiated a workshop with the working title “Applicability of sensitisation test methods for regulatory purposes”. This is due to take place sometime in the first quarter of 2010 and will enable information and experience made with sensitisation methods to be shared and to gain insights into the applicability domains of these tests. Industry specialists, academics and regulatory representatives will be invited to take part.

CESIO Members 2009

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Cefic, the European Chemical Industry Council, is the Brussels-based organisation representing national chemical federations and chemical companies of Europe. All together, Cefic represents, directly or indirectly, about 30,000 large, medium and small chemical companies in Europe, which employ about 2 million people and account for more than 30% of world chemicals production.

CESIO (Comité Européen des Agents de Surface et de leurs Intermédiaires Organiques) is the Cefic sector group representing the European producers of surfactants. The aim of CESIO is to develop and promote surfactants, keeping in mind environment and health.