



DUCC



Downstream Users of Chemicals Co-ordination group

# Downstream Users' expectations in 2011 and beyond

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# 1. Future substance availability

- DU's access to information regarding the registration status of a substance
  - ✓ Supply chain communication: difficult for DU to know whether a specific substance has been registered (or should have been)
  - ✓ No reason to panic at this stage
- Substance 'vulnerability' will be higher in 2013 and 2018
- Learnings:
  - **ECHA's list of substances intended to be registered (2010) was very helpful → ECHA expected to do it again in 2013**
  - **M/I: please tell us in advance if you have no intent to register or register as intermediate only → DUs need time to assess their options**



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## 2. Changes to substance hazard profile

- Changes to substance name and profile → increased complexity
- Divergences in the C&L inventory → confusion?
  - Most critical: new CMR classification
- More severe classifications under CLP → more mixtures classified

### • **Downstream impact of classification changes**

- Legislation: sector legislation, Ecolabel, Seveso, Transport, etc.
  - Indirect but significant pressure: retailers, shelf restrictions, claims/advertising restrictions
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- **M/I: please communicate new (more severe) classifications as early as possible → DU to assess severity of downstream impact**
  - **M/I: communication on new names, if applicable, is very helpful for DUs**

## 3. Uses and Exposure Scenarios

- Existing DU guidance is not practical enough for DUs ➔ practical guidance under development
- Lack of **standard format** for ES communicated in SDS annex is problematic, more than size
- The **12-month deadline** for complying with ES recommendations (6 months for DU CSA) is extremely challenging
- **Supply chain communication** is expected to remain chaotic
  - ➔ **ESCom package for Top-Down communication on ES**
- Handling SDS annexes for mixtures requires careful assessment and new tools
  - ➔ **SDS annexes of mixtures (« exposure scenarios for mixtures ») to be updated only in case of change in hazard or RMM/OC?**
- Language/translation issues
  - ➔ EN in addition to local language is desired



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## 4. DUCC Workshop (27 May 2011)

- Topic: Exposure Scenarios for communication (extended SDS)
- Participants (24): ECHA, Cefic, DUCC member associations
- Workshop agenda:
  - Part 1: **review of current practices based on 'real-life' ES** as communicated in extended SDS
  - Part 2: exemplification of Exposure Scenarios



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## ES Good practices identified / recommendations

- **Index of ES** at the beginning of SDS annex: list ES short titles
  - Ex: professional use of cleaning products (SU22, PC35)
- **Distinguish main user groups in ES titles**, and do not mix them in one ES
  - Consumer user ES (SU21)
  - Professional user ES (SU22)
  - Industrial user ES (SU3)
- Use **ECHA's ES headings** /structure (5 parts from IR/CSA guidance)
- **Assign a number /code for each ES**, and one for each CS
- Do not send copies of CSR



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## ES good practices identified / recommendations

- Clarity of presentation: **structured and synthetic tables** help readers
- **Use standard phrases** as much as possible (eases translation and future automation)
- Structure **ES titles around use descriptors** (for automation)
- **Contributing scenarios**
  - in general, one CS = one PROC/ERC + one set of OC/RMM + corresponding (multiple) RCR.
  - Note: it can also be one activity, several PROCs)
- Report **good practice advice separately** from Section 2 (RMM/OC that go beyond CSR)

## ES good practices identified / recommendations

- Provide **sufficient but concise** and clear information: balance amount of details
  - Exposure assessment tool + main parameters + RCR
  - Some important information is often missing (e.g. RCR, PNEC/DNEL)
  - RMM sometimes too restrictive
- Indicate **effectiveness of RMM**
  - ‘apply appropriate measures’ is too broad
  - LEV 99% effectiveness is difficult to comply with in practice
- Include **RCR** (or exposure values) **for each PROC/PC/ERC**, not just the worst case PROC/PC/ERC



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## ES good practices identified / recommendations

- **Provide scaling algorithms** in the 'DU Advice' section
  - Note: scaling to be used carefully at DU level
- **Use of Chesar** can help a lot: at M/I and DU level e.g.
  - Consistency in content and structure/headings
  - Life-cycle tree: avoid missing uses
  - Balance level of detail to be communicated
- Clarify in substance SDS **why there is no registration number + why no ES attached**



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## ES: Areas for improvement / suggestions

- Unstructured/disharmonised documents – **standard format missing**
  - Difficult for DU to find relevant information
  - Chesar and ES models can help harmonise
  - More IT solutions ?
- Translation issues: use **more standard phrases / limit free text**
- **Better structuring of OC/RMM sections** would be desired to allow comparison between suppliers or substances (mixtures)
- Future changes to structure/headers of ES should be limited
- **DU should not report 'everything possible'** : improve for next use reporting phase (by 1 June 2012)



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# ES: other considerations from the workshop

- Can M/I send DU-tailored ES i.e. send ES covering only relevant uses?
  - This would be useful but difficult in practice, and not applicable for distributors
- Need to clarify **boundaries between Scaling and DU CSA**
- Uses not covered: four options but no simple solution
  - supply chain communication is complex
- Concerns related to enforcers' expectations at DU level
- **Chesar and ECom XML** should be complementary: both are needed for future **IT processing!**

**M/I:** CHESAR → XML output (ext-SDS)

**DU1:** ECom XML 1.1 → XML output (ext-SDS)

**DU2 (or n):** ECom XML 1.1 → XML output (ext-SDS)

# Conclusions

- DUs have complex and novel tasks under REACH: build expertise (SMEs!)
- DU challenges are numerous: deadlines, options
- We are only at the beginning of a long process
- Comprehensive IT support will not be available before 3Q2012 (best case)
  - interim solutions in the meantime
  - focus on priorities
  - pragmatic approach on SDS issues (mixtures)
- Inspectors' expectations (REACH-Enforce-2)?

**BUT... WE ARE WORKING ON IT !  
ALL TOGETHER...**

