

Report from Chesar Use maps Workshop on May 3, 2017

The workshop and its objectives

On 3 May 2017, a workshop was held in Brussels with the objectives to provide sectors associations developing use maps the opportunity to exchange on experiences. The general focus of the workshop was on providing registrants with use information in a format that can be processed easily by them in a chemical safety assessment. Specifically, the conversion of sector use maps into a format that can be run using ECHA's Chemical Safety Assessment and Reporting tool, Chesar.

The workshop was attended by 20 participants representing various downstream users sectors associations and some registrants, globally showing a high level of interest¹.

In this workshop each sector presented his state of play and some observations they were facing when preparing their Chesar files. The feedback received covered the conversion of the use mapping, SWEDs, SPERCs and SCEDs. The workshop was also an opportunity to have a deeper insight on a number of topics identified in earlier exchanges among use maps developers, such as how to develop a SWED to support a registrant in using both ECETOC TRA or ART for his assessment, based on which further improvements could be done in Chesar and possibly in the use maps templates/guidance.

Participants to the workshop also learned about the new functionalities implemented in Chesar 3.2.² with regards use maps and about the plans for Chesar 3.3.³

Workshop results

The material from the workshop is published together with this report on ENES webpage⁴. The main observations are captured in the conclusions slides (slides 37-43).

The following main aspects are highlighted:

- A number of downstream sectors are committed to create Chesar files for their use maps package and to publish them in ECHA's use maps library. The work is underway.
- The conversion of use maps in Chesar format brings interesting learnings. Participants agreed on the usefulness of maintaining a platform to exchange on experiences among sectors, to benefit from the learnings and come to some alignment on common issues.
- A number of technical clarifications were provided during the workshop. For some other specific topics further work is required. In particular there is a need to reflect on:
 - how to best support registrants in the selection of uses/CAs relevant to their substances from the sector use maps;

¹ AISE, ATIEL, Cefic, Concawe, Cosmetics Europe, DUCC, ECMA, ECPA, EFCC, ESIG, EuPC, Eurometaux, FEICA, Fertilisers Europe, I&P, Resins Technical platform

² Release expected end of May 2017

³ Release planned in November 2017

⁴ <https://echa.europa.eu/-/enes-workshops-on-sector-use-maps>

- alternative approaches to use maps/SWEDs followed by some sectors (alternatives to the SWEDs in the Plastic compounding and conversion sector; Generic Exposure Scenarios (GES) in the Solvent and Lubricant industry);
- the need for a better integration of information from external exposure assessment tools (e.g. for environment)⁵ / measured data in the use maps;
- the feasibility of integrating toxicological data available on mixture (e.g. on one endpoint such as sensitisation) in the use maps⁶.
- The new functionalities of Chesar 3.2 with regards use maps were welcomed by the participants. The new functionalities will, among other, greatly facilitate registrants' tasks in dealing with use maps updates (Chesar generates a summary of changes between use maps versions. The registrant is asked whether he wants to update the information to the newest version).

Next steps

The meeting on use maps and Chesar was constructive and allowed an open technical discussion. The work from sectors will continue and it can be expected that first use maps will be published in Chesar format over the summer.

Participants were informed about Cefic's pilot project on ENES tools to which 2 sectors present at the workshop are participating (EFCC and FEICA). Further learnings are expected as an outcome of that project which will be worthwhile to share with the other sectors.

ECHA will organise further exchanges in the future.

⁵ ECPA, Fertilisers Europe

⁶ to be explored in a next phase of use maps development