

ECHA's Dissemination website

Previous consultations on disseminated information

03 December 2013

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Sharing information on chemicals safety is one aim of REACH

- With the Authorities
 - Information collected by companies on properties and uses of their chemicals to perform the chemical safety assessment is submitted to ECHA in a registration dossier
- In the supply chain
 - Via the safety data sheet and exposure scenarios
- With the public
 - Information is made publicly available on ECHA website
 - In certain conditions (Substances of Very High Concern contained in articles above a certain concentration), companies must provide information to a consumer, upon request within 45 days

Legal basis

- REACH Article 77 - Tasks
 - (2)(e) – Establish & maintain database(s) with information on all registered substances, the C&L inventory and the harmonised C&L list
- REACH Article 119 – Electronic public access
 - Make information publicly available, free of charge, over the internet
- REACH Article 118 – Access to information
 - Make other information available on request
- REACH recital 117 – Brief Profiles for EU citizens
 - hazardous properties, labelling requirements and relevant Community legislation including authorised uses and risk management measures

Multi-Annual Work Programme 2013-2015

- Contribute to the intelligent use of data for effective regulatory management by, *inter alia*:
 - Enhancing the dissemination website to make it a user-friendly, one-stop shop for information on the substances in ECHA's databases, and engaging stakeholders in order to better understand and address their needs

http://echa.europa.eu/documents/10162/13608/mb_19_2012_echa_mawp_2013_2015_en.pdf

Stakeholders' engagement study

- A stakeholder engagement study was launched
 - Investigate ways to improve readability and user friendliness and better target needs of different audiences
- Quantitative and qualitative research with different user groups (on-line audiences)
- Objective of the study:
 - Identify key information per user group
 - Investigate ways to present the key info on-line

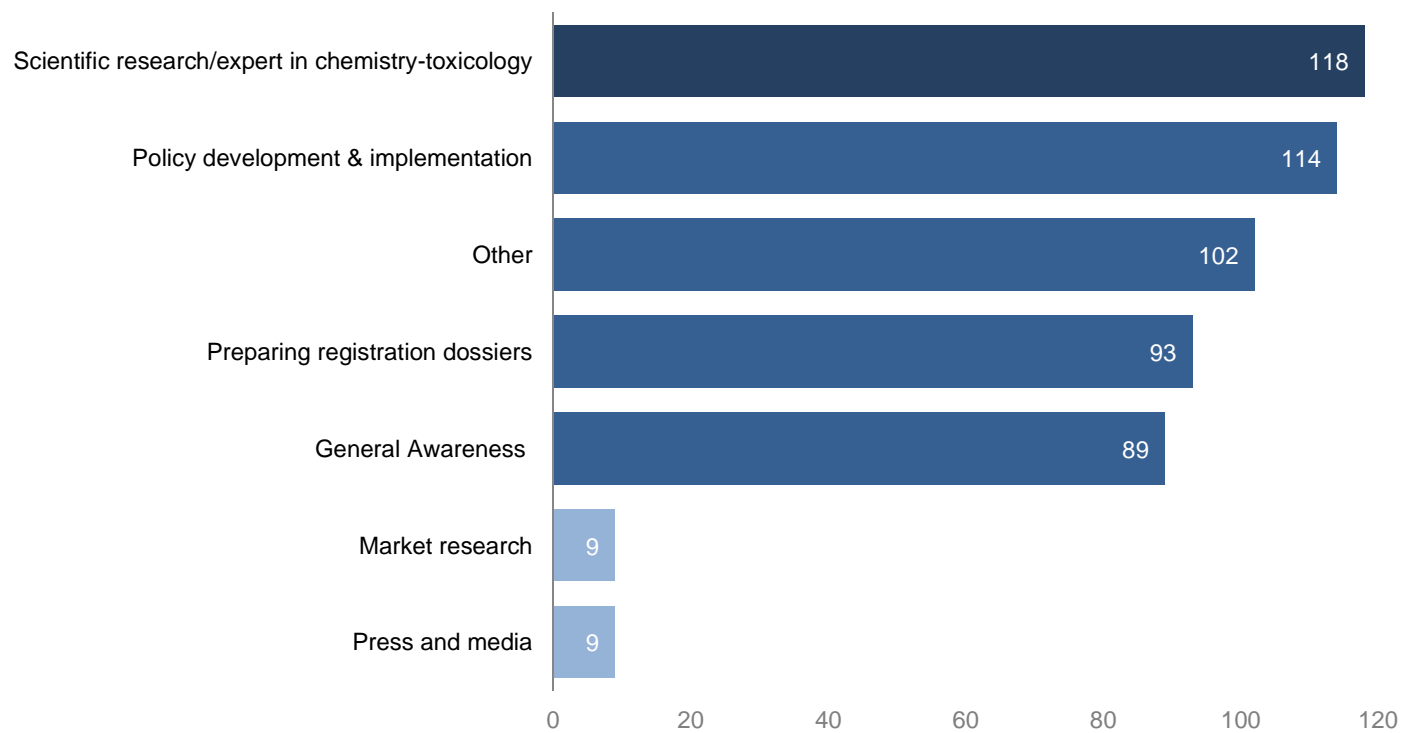
Stakeholders' engagement study

- On-line survey participants
 - 380 responses (265 full and 115 partial) over 4 weeks
- Interviews
 - 20 stakeholders in 16 sessions between January and March 2013

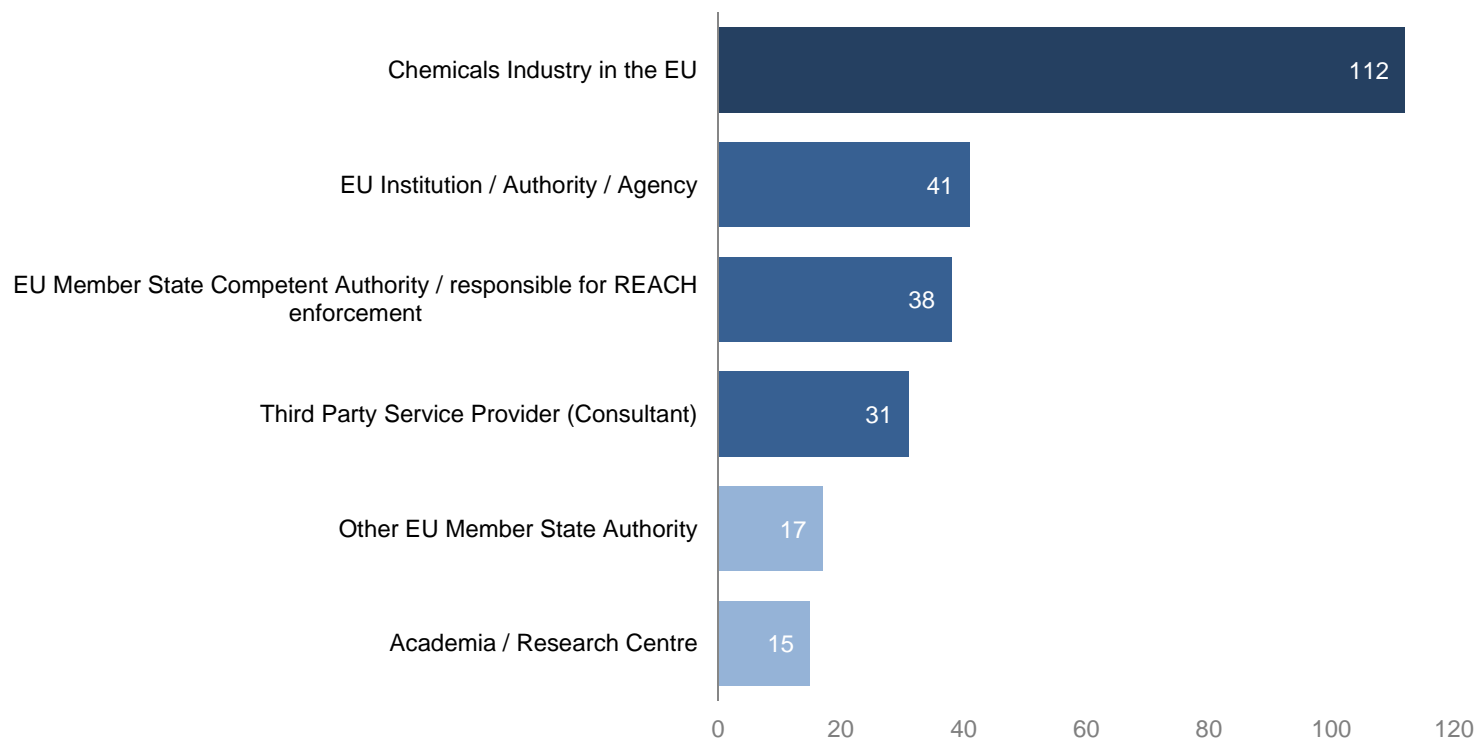
Key findings - Survey

- Overall good satisfaction ratings by the 3 search functions
- Most of the respondents are frequent users
 - Little insight can be gained if untapped target audiences (such as consumers, citizens) are to be addressed
 - Not real alternatives indicated, since most of the users are used to the current system/interface

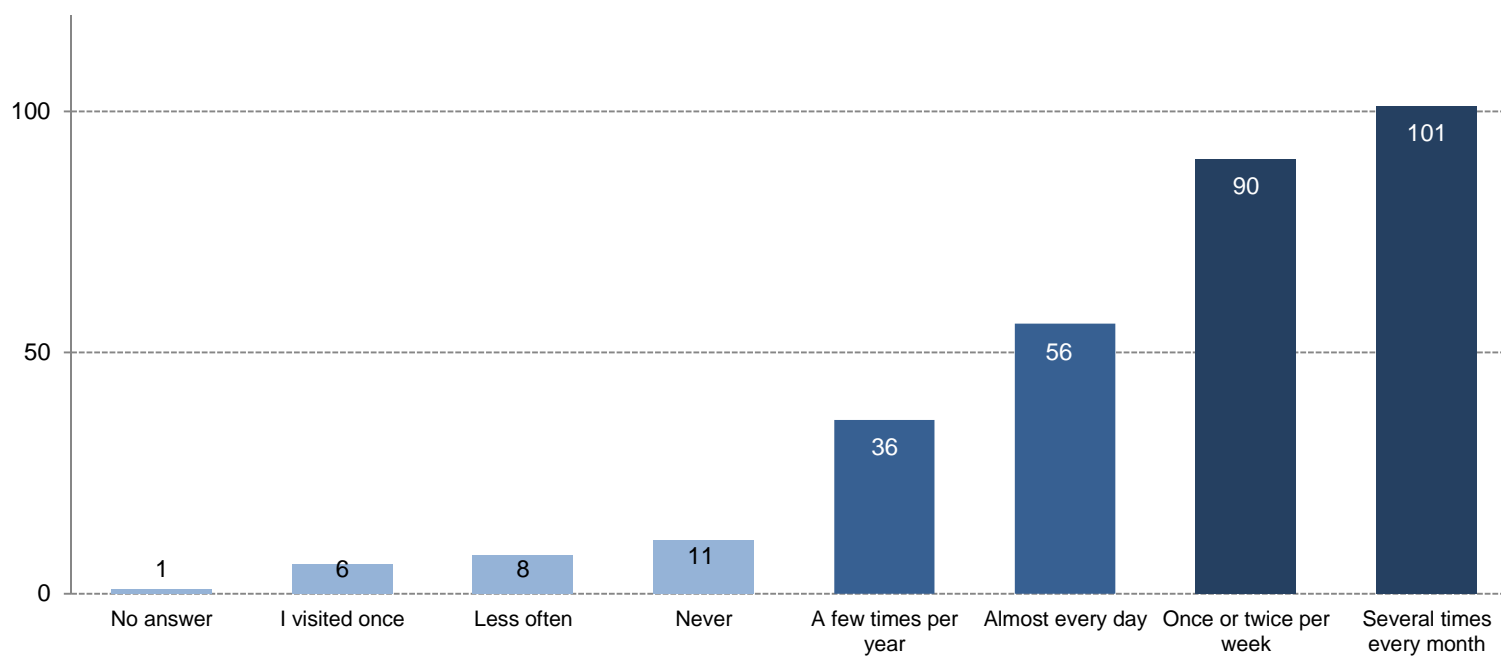
Work assignments



Work affiliation



Frequency of usage of the ECHA Dissemination services



Satisfaction ratings for search functions

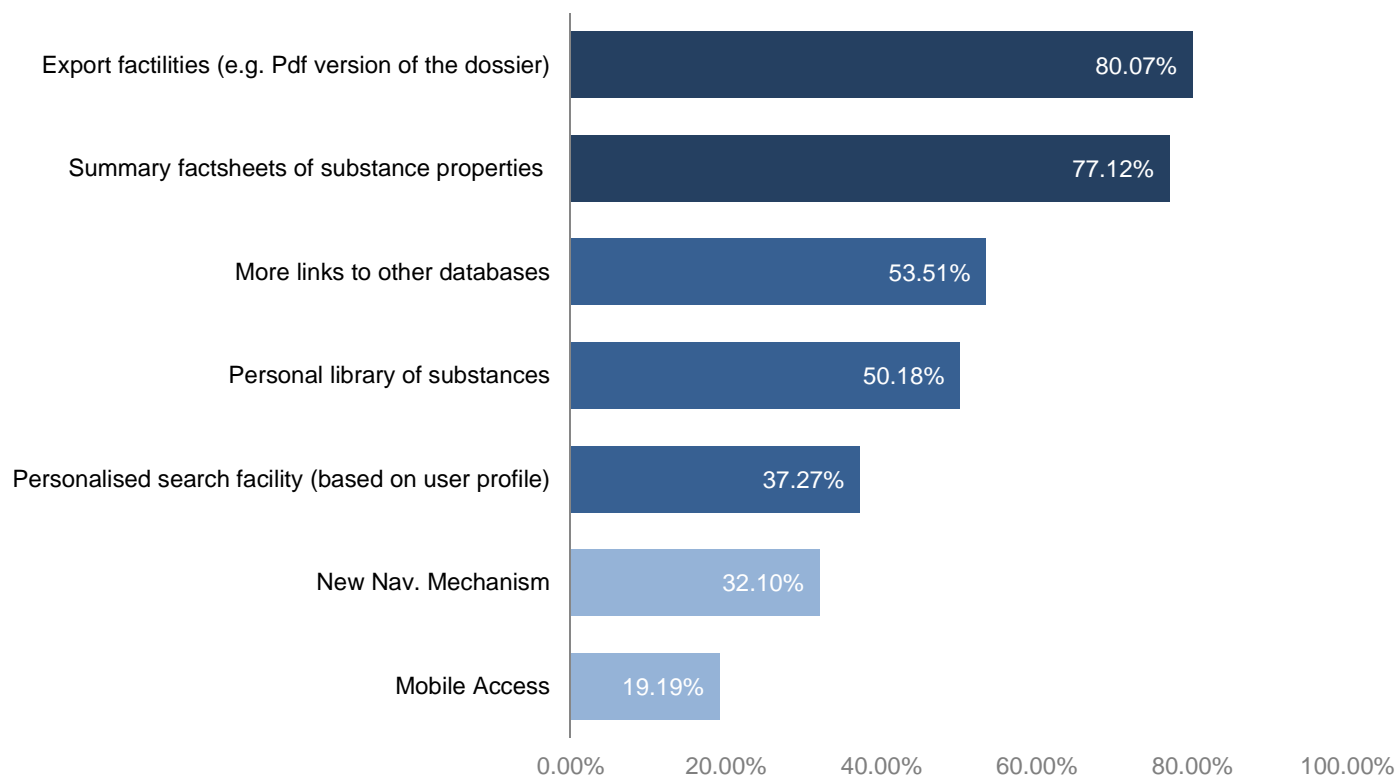
Most Used Search Function			
	Search for Chemicals function (homepage)	Registered Substances search function	Classification & Labeling Inventory
Used by :	79.69%	87.50%	77.50%
Not used by:	19.69%	11.56%	21.56%
No answer:	0.62%	0.94%	0.94%

Satisfaction Ratings for the ECHA Dissemination portal						
	Search for Chemicals function (homepage)		Registered Substances search function		Classification & Labeling Inventory	
	Count	Percentage	Count	Percentage	Count	Percentage
Very satisfied	28	10.98%	40	14.29%▲	32	12.90%
Satisfied	139	54.51%▲	143	51.07%	105	42.34%
Neutral	53	20.78%	56	20.00%	61	24.60%
Dissatisfied	22	8.63%	28	10.00%	33	13.31%▲
Very dissatisfied	5	1.96%	4	1.43%	9	3.63%▲
No answer	8	3.14%	9	3.21%	8	3.23%

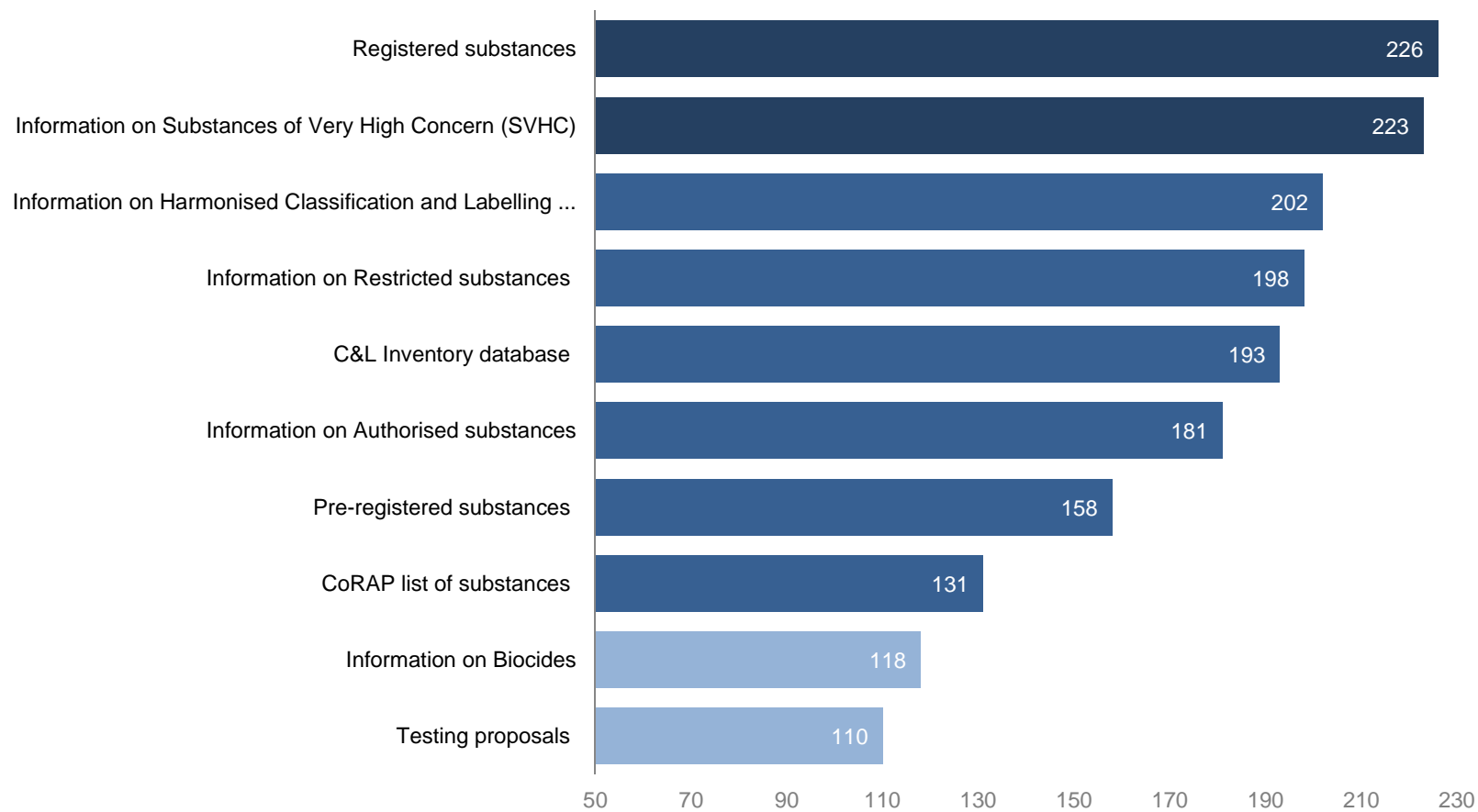
User interface and content satisfaction

Detailed UI and Content Satisfaction Ratings						
	Satisfaction Scale					
	Very good	Good	Neutral	Bad	Very bad	Not sure
Quality of the content	14	83	111	43	13	9
Quantity of the content	16	110	94	38	6	9
Navigation in the ECHA Dissemination portal	26	109	93	29	7	9
Clarity of the presentation / Overall "look and feel"	29	121	79	29	6	7
Relevance of the data provided	34	117	84	16	5	15
Level of detail	32	101	96	27	7	8
Vocabulary used	22	129	98	12	4	6
Quality of the search function	29	116	71	29	16	10
Frequency of updating	18	83	97	15	9	49

Usefulness ratings for new features



Information needs



Summary of feedback from interviews

- Navigation/search function/display of results
 - “Easy to use when accustomed to IUCLID format, not straight forward for non-experts”
 - “Left sidebar provides easy navigation throughout the dossier but cumbersome due to the content volume”
 - “The search does not find synonyms or the name of the substance is confidential”
 - “Useful to be able to use wildcards”
 - “The system should provide suggestions”
 - “Search for all substances that have a certain hazard classification for any of their properties”
 - “Filter for NONs substances (NONS/Not NONS) and Nano (Nano/Not Nano)”

Summary of feedback from interviews

- Availability of information
 - “Meaningful justifications and visual indicators when data are missing/not available”
 - “Detailed justification of the update of the dossiers / indication of the specific fields or sections that have been updated”
 - “Brief substance profiles (recital 117 in REACH) and/or generic substance summaries/factsheets are missing”
 - “Information about the justifications for the DNELs /assessment factors is missing”

Summary of feedback from interviews

- Download functionalities/reporting
 - Downloadable content: more flexibility sought
 - Personalisation and subscription to information
 - “Difficult to use data for statistical purposes currently”
- Integration of data sources
 - Single point of access widely used - links/‘redirects’ to a number of ECHA sources and applications
 - “Possibility to choose the database to search”
 - “Synergies on the search criteria between the registered substances and C&L Inventory databases”

Addressing the main findings (1)

Immediate actions

- Improve filtering and search functions
 - Filtering NONs substances available
 - Wild card searching available
- Improve data display and availability
 - Confidentiality claims visibility improving
 - DNELs/PNECs assessment factors and justifications published
- Download / printing features
 - Printer friendly html implemented

Addressing the main findings (2)

- Requirements such as central point of access to all substance-related data, different views, etc. need adaptation of the website architecture
 - Architectural study finalised. Analysis of the results underway
- Availability of Exposure Scenarios (ES) and CSR information
 - Handled under the context of “CSA development programme” and IUCLID 6
- Display of brief profiles
 - Development work in progress. Further analyses to address challenges associated with data availability and format, assuring meaningful display of information for different user profiles
 - Workshop for additional consultation with Stakeholders (Accredited Stakeholders, MSCAs)

Way forward / Next steps

Aim

- access all information related to a substance of interest independently of the entry point
- increase usability by simplifying the navigation

How

- Architectural review
 - integrate the scattered information and legislative processes
 - improve the presentation of data and enable data download
- Review of the Dissemination pipelines
- Content-related aspects such as:
 - Brief profiles of substances
 - improvement of data quality
- Development of user interface
 - Information display (type, structure and design)
 - Search engines and filters

Thank you

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