

6 June 2016

Event: Workshop on Sector use maps

Date/location: 12 May 2016 at Cefic, Brussels.

Reference: CSR/ES Roadmap action area 2.1

1. Introduction

1.1 Objectives

The aims of this Workshop were for sector organisations (i) to share their experiences in developing use maps and the associated inputs for the REACH exposure assessments, and (ii) to discuss how registrants can contribute to the development and utilisation of sector use maps in their REACH registrations. The timing of the workshop was geared towards supporting those registrants who are preparing for the REACH 2018 registration deadline. However, the use map information is relevant to any registrant that may need to review and update an existing dossier to take account of new information.

1.2 Background

Use maps are a means by which downstream users sectors can inform registrants on their most common uses and conditions of use in order to support them in performing the safety assessment for their substances. Use map are not substance-specific and do not list names of substances, rather they describe uses such as activities or processes for which several substances may be used. Registrants need to select the uses relevant to their substances. If based on information provided by downstream users, the chemical safety report (for the registrant's own records and for authorities) and the exposure scenarios which are communicated down the supply chain is more likely to reflect realistic conditions of use.

Under the [CSR/ES Roadmap](#),¹ ECHA and industry (downstream users and registrants) have collaborated to update an existing industry template for use maps. This template together with templates for the exposure assessment inputs for the REACH chemical safety assessment for workers (SWEDs), the environment (SPERCs) and consumers (SCEDs) are published on a dedicated [web page](#).²

1.3 Participants

30 participants joined the workshop. Many represented downstream users' sector organisations (A.I.S.E., ATIEL, CEPE, DUCC, EFCC, FEA, Fertilizers Europe, IFRA, I&P, Fecc, EuPC). Sector organisations representing registrants were also present – Cefic, Concawe, European Catalyst Manufacturers' Association (ECMA), Eurométaux - together with a number of member companies (Ashland, BASF, Clariant, Shell, ExxonMobil).

2. Summary of the workshop

The sessions focussed on sharing experience with using the templates developed under the CSR/ES Roadmap: the use map package, which includes templates for use description, SWEDs

¹ <http://echa.europa.eu/web/guest/csr-es-roadmap/action-area-2>

² <http://echa.europa.eu/csr-es-roadmap/use-maps>

for workers' conditions of use, SCEDs for consumers' conditions of use and SPERCs for the environment.

The presentations are available on ECHA's [website](#).

3. Conclusions and Next steps

- A number of sectors are actively engaged in revising their sector use maps in order to make them available to registrants.
- The workshop provided an opportunity to learn about the attention being given by these sectors to accurately describe their uses and define their boundary conditions, with practical examples. Whilst much remains to do, the workshop provided a useful networking opportunity for sectors at differing stages of their use maps' development.
- From the presentation and exchanges, no changes were identified in the templates now available and published on ECHA's web site.
- A brief state of play of the ECom package was made by the ECom standard phrases Working Group.³ For sectors currently developing their use maps, instructions on how to use standard phrases and information on the timing and process to submit new phrases was identified as an item to follow up. Although guidance on how to derive 'good standard phrases' already exists, more specific, practical advice for use maps' developers (including level of details/specification needed) would be welcomed. To facilitate this, a dedicated workshop for use maps' practitioners could be considered for the autumn.
- Downstream users' sectors acknowledge that their motivation to invest in this task will increase if they receive a clear signal from registrants that they intend to 'take up' downstream sector use maps in their REACH assessments.
- To support industry ECHA will provide a web-based platform to host completed sector use maps, accessible to registrants and downstream users alike.
- Chesar⁴ supports i) the generation of use map information in XML format and ii) enables single registrants to upload this information into their CSA. SWEDs are not supported yet, this functionality will be added with Chesar 3.1 expected in autumn 2016. ECHA invited industry to provide feedback on the current implementation of use maps in Chesar 3.0 so that improvements can be made for future versions. Also, ECHA offered assistance to sectors willing to generate their use maps information in a Chesar 3 XML format.



³ CSR/ES Roadmap action area 3.3. For more information, see Cefic's ECom web page.

⁴ ECHA's Chemical Safety Assessment and Reporting Tool for registrants