

Socio-economic impacts of REACH authorisations

A meta-analysis of the first 100
applications for authorisation

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<https://echa.europa.eu/en/publications/technical-scientific-reports>



Overview of applications received & evaluated by 2016



Applications



Applicants

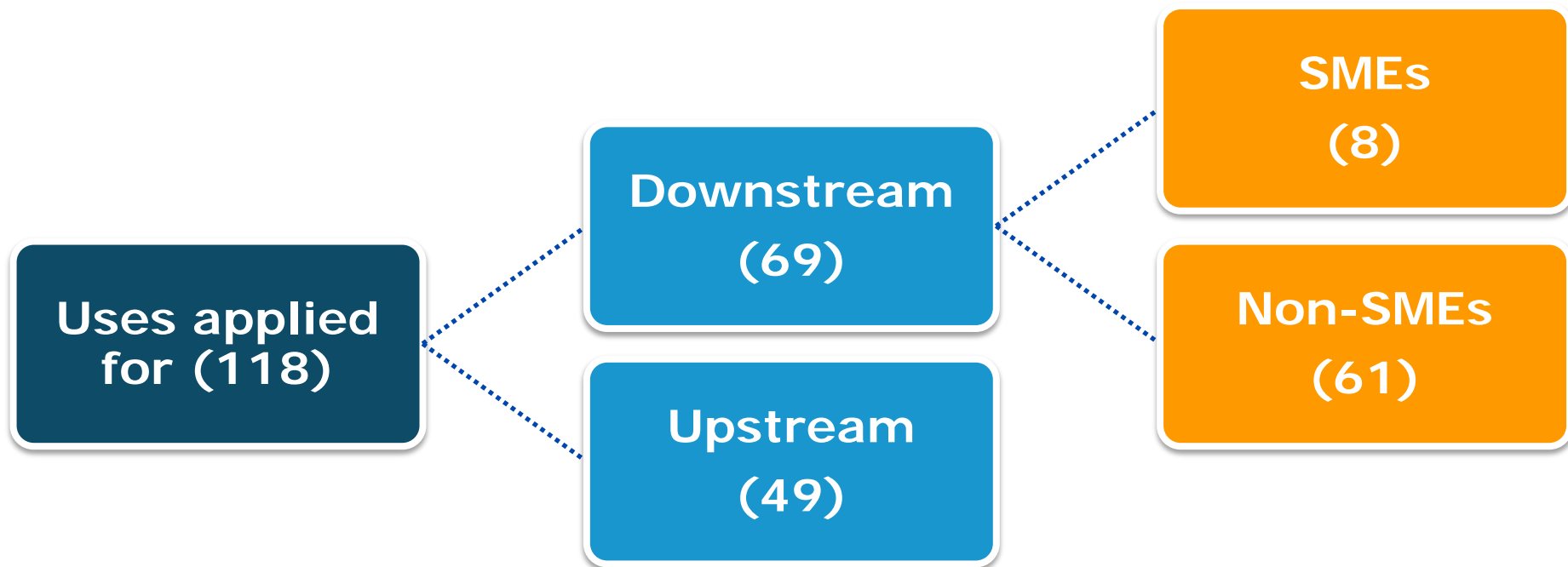


Uses



SVHCs

Who has applied for?



What substances have been applied for?



What uses have been applied for?

Cleaner [1]



Process inhibitor [12]



Flame retardant [2]



Formulation [14]



Packaging [1]



Painting [10]



Process aid [3]



Separation [3]



Softener [15]



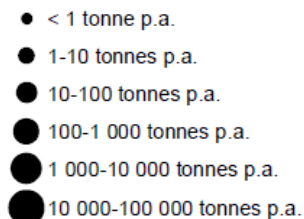
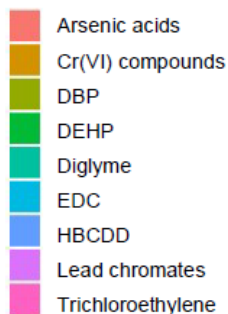
Solvent [21]



Spraying [3]



Surface treatment [33]



Assessments of Continued Use: applicants vs committees

Measuring benefits of continued use of SVHC



- difficulties in quantifying **social value** of own activities
- difficulties in accounting for **spill-overs** on other actors
- focus on **job loss** rather than on **welfare loss**

Overestimating benefits of continued use



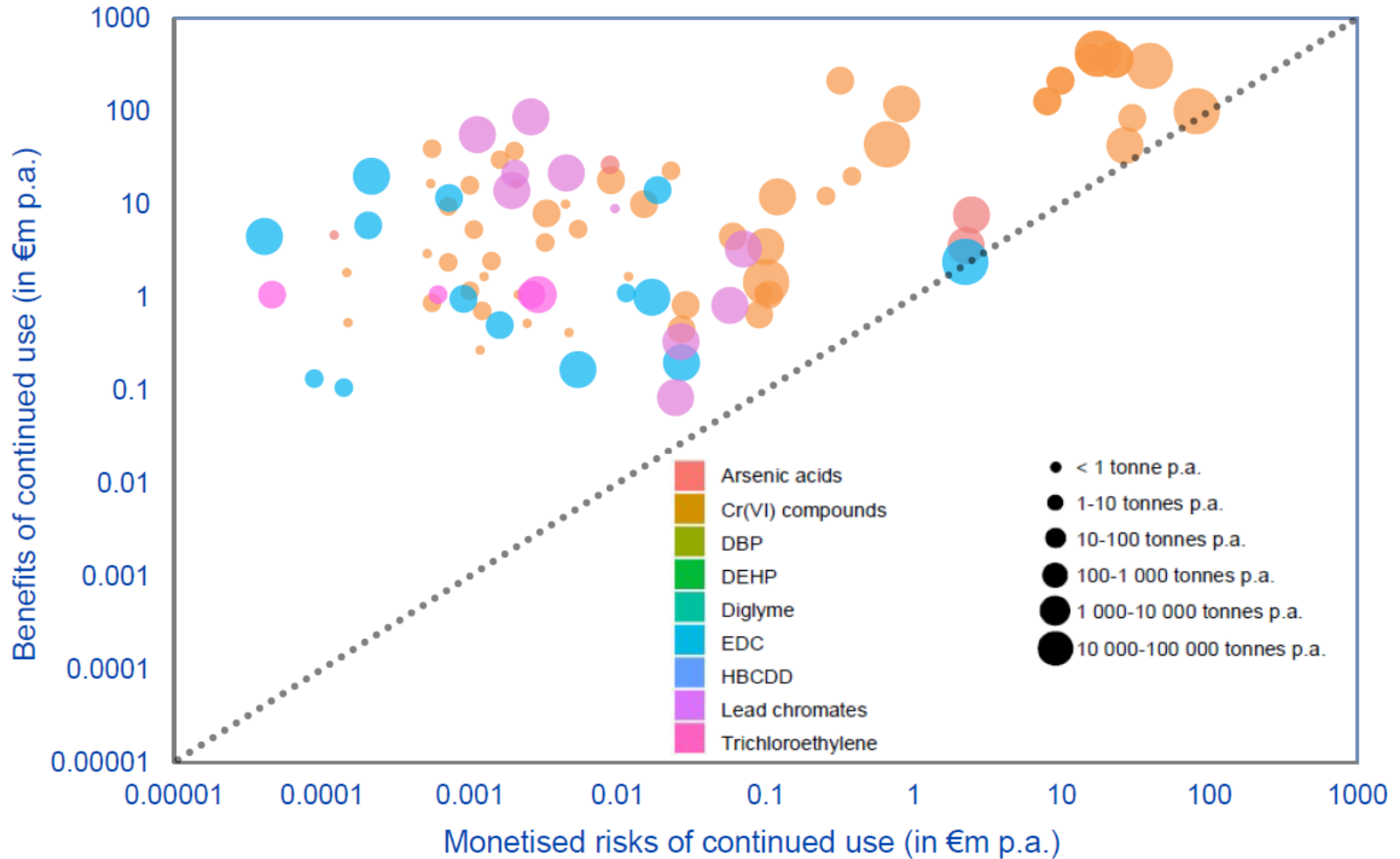
- on aggregate, applicants claimed ~5 times larger benefits than SEAC evaluated
- benefit estimates **reduced** in 70 out of 94 cases

Underestimating risks to human health



- on aggregate, applicants claimed ~15% smaller risks than RAC evaluated
- risks **“controlled”** by imposing operating conditions and risk management measures

Benefits vs monetised risks

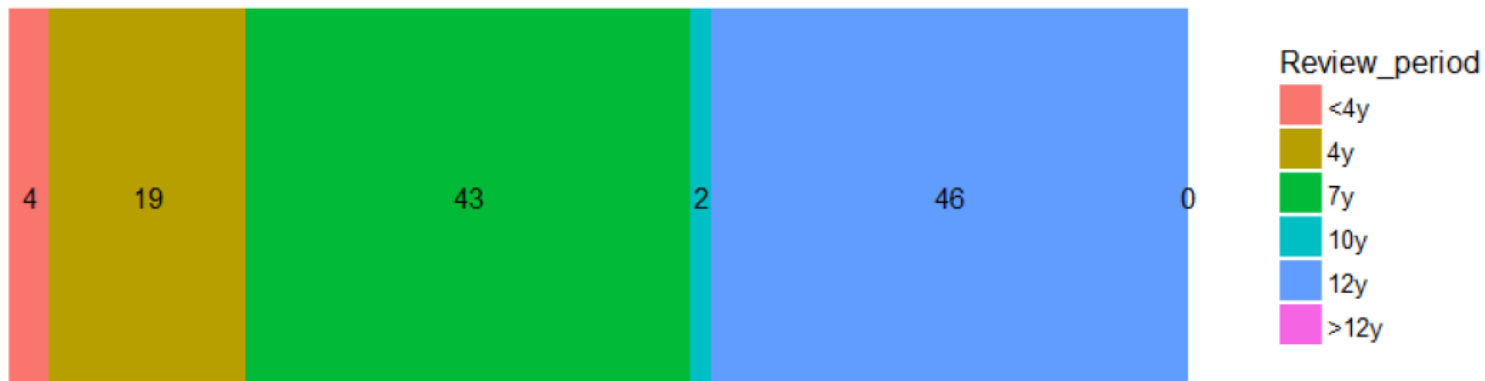


SEAC recommendations on review periods

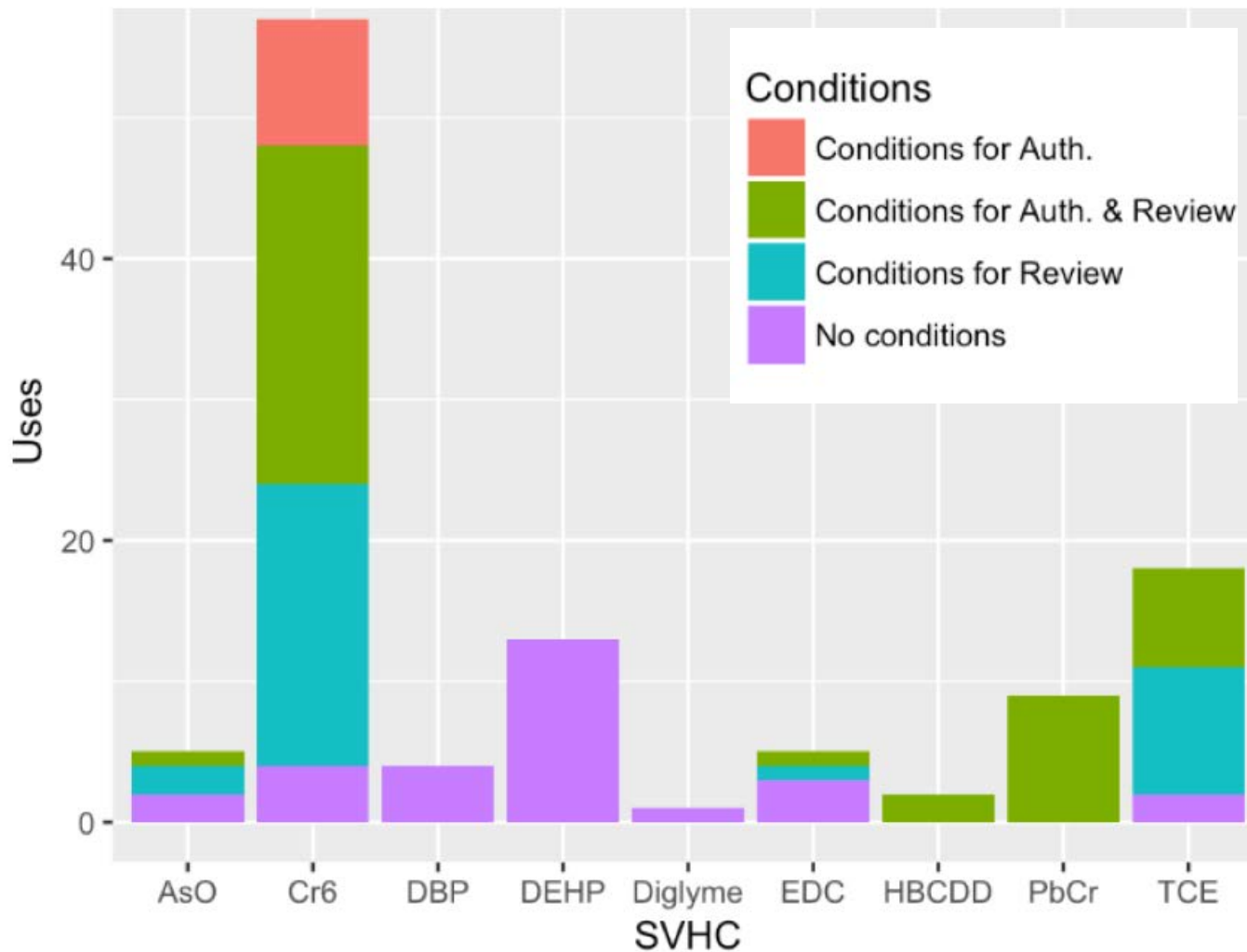
Review Periods Applied For (in #)



Review Periods Recommended (in #)



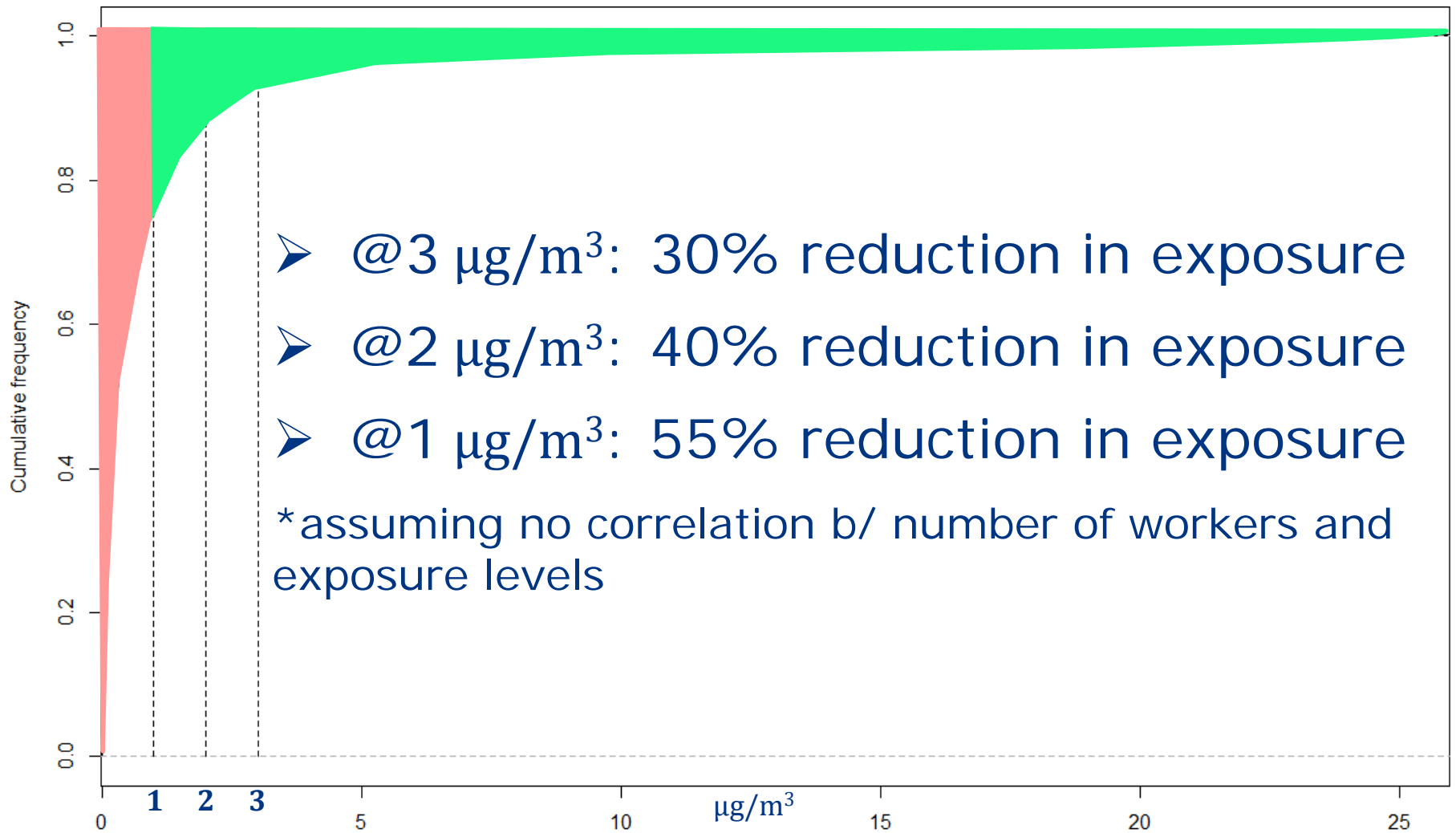
RAC recommendations on additional conditions



Possible impacts on workers' risk: example of French chrome coaters



Possible impacts on workers' risk: authorisation based on risk characterisation



Possible impacts on workers' risk: Firms adopt "best practices"



Conclusions

- Authorisation system clearly contributes to reducing workers' exposures to SVHCs in EU
- Benefits of authorisation outweighed remaining risks (average ratio 15:1)
- ECHA's scientific committees recommended:
 - 2.5 yrs shorter review period than applicants proposed
 - conditions/monitoring requirements in 72% of cases
- Future: report key information in standardised manner

Thank you!

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