



PEST Info 2010/2.

After the successful development and implementation of the Use Mapping Tool developed by the European Plastics Chain grouped in the PEST project (Plastics Exposure Scenario Team), time has come to inform you about further actions and timing.

Based on the data collected by PEST associations and members, information about most of the current Operating Conditions (OC) and Risk Management Measures (RMM) in place in the Plastics Industry has been gathered.

This information has allowed us to identify the various operations of the plastic conversion processes, and in particular where potential release of substances could occur as well as the existing means in place to limit them.

The main task of the last months has been to structure the views of the experts and start to use the ECHA recommended tool, ECETOC TRA to assess the use of the classified plastics additives, both in terms of effects on human health (workers and consumers) and on the environment. Given on one side the relatively high number of processes to be covered and the very high number of substances properties / parameters to be dealt with, the production of a limited number of Generic Exposure Scenarios (GES) has become a real challenge. In order to move forward, a database containing the results of hundreds of ECETOC runs is being built. It is using the so-called ECETOC Tier 2 conditions (based on OECD data), with plastics specific data and boundaries. This has helped to generate more realistic results and thus greatly reduce the number of unsafe situations where unnecessary RMM would have been necessary to implement by the users of the additives or even of the plastics containing them.

In order to support individuals from our member organizations who are developing exposure scenarios for their Tier 1 substance registrations, PEST launched the ES-Expert-Network (ES-EN) and the following steps are being implemented:

- PEST makes its info available to the ES experts of the various consortia of the PEST platform so they can start preparing some of their own specific ES without delay. This is targeted to the experts for the purpose of preparing the ES of the consortia sponsored by the PEST member companies. Members of the PEST member organizations who need access to this information should contact Alain Cavallero at Cefic (aca@cefic.be) for details.

- PEST has begun the development of its GES database. Eventually, we intend to make our GES (as they are completed) available through this application. Currently

we are making available to the Expert-Network Ecetoc TRAM main sheets already populated with all the PEST use descriptors, RMMs, operational conditions and refinements specific to our sector. These sheets can be used and further refined by those who are developing their ES for tier 1 substances.

- PEST will act as a focal point to:
 - . Help the various experts by providing suggestions on possible refinements of their input parameters in the ECETOC tool;
 - . Share within the platform the findings coming from the additional ES being generated.

- As the PEST database is further developed, we will be providing further information on this site.

The final step of the PEST activities of direct interest to the plastics converters will be when their suppliers, members of PEST will communicate to them the e-SDS of classified plastics, Masterbatches or Compounds. They will so have the possibility to assess their own operating conditions and whether or not they comply with the safe conditions of use derived from the GES.

Communication provided by:
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