

PEST Info 2010/1.

After the successful development and implementation of the Use Mapping 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.

Two of three major steps have now been completed:

1. The Use Mapping is an up- and downstream communication tool developed by a PEST team and as such a first and major step in helping Downstream Users and Substance Manufacturers to comply with Reach within the tight deadlines of the Regulation:

- Downstream Users had the possibility to check the coverage of their uses and if necessary fulfil their Art. 37 rights to make their uses “Identified Uses” in a standard format - without having to bother with the technicalities of the Reach Use Descriptor System - before the deadline of **30 November 2009**
- Substance Manufacturers could check the completeness of their “Intended Uses” in preparation of their Registration Dossiers.

2. In parallel to the Use Mapping exercise, two other PEST teams have successfully concluded in time by the **end of 2009** two subprojects providing basic data for the development of the Generic Exposure Scenarios:

- For almost three years, a survey has taken place to gather data on Operational Conditions and Risk Management Measures in all major plastics converting processes for all major polymers; this was done through extensive interviews of representative trade associations, sector groups and companies.
- Another team has translated these data and other available data into Standard Modules of Emissions and Releases of the plastics converting processes and brought them in line with Reach requirements and vocabulary. This is a direct input to the Generic Exposure Scenarios

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.

Finally, the 4th expert team is developing the Generic Exposure Scenarios for classified additives used in plastics. The latest version of the ECETOC Tiered Risk Assessment Tool was finalised and published just prior to the Christmas holiday break. All data now being available, the PEST team will generate the first GESs for typical cases after tier 1 evaluation by the end of February. This will allow members to timely complete their own registration dossiers. A first example of GES for one group of additives will already be posted on 27th January.

The next step of the PEST activities that will be of direct interest to the plastics converters will be when their suppliers, members of PEST will communicate them the e-SDS of a 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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