



Health & Environment, September 2009

The UEIL H+E meeting took place in Brussels on September 16; 18 people attended as well as 2 guests, again we had a full agenda.

All Committee members agreed on keeping on working following the principle of the folder champions: one or more UEIL H+E committee members will follow and report new developments about a specific subject to the committee.

Folders include:

- **European product stewardship concept (EPSG)**

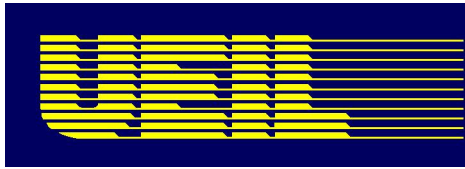
The EPSG should be the natural development of the current committee in the aim of dealing as much as possible with European issues and leaving the country-focused issues to discussion on a national level. The creation of the EPSG could help UEIL Health & Environment committee to acquire recognition and to improve its positive image with stakeholders. As a matter of fact it wouldn't be anymore a collection of national delegations views but could become a stronger EU body with its own identity. The most appropriate model to be adopted was discussed. National delegations (members of UEIL) nominate delegates to join the EPSG. In those countries where a national delegation does not exist or is not a member of UEIL, single companies can be directly represented by their delegates. A working group will work on the further setting up of the EPSG.

- **Boric acid**

The UKLA/ UEIL document is now updated ([ref. link](#)) and it is important that member companies consider the most recent key changes on this subject.

Dr Roger Doome, Secretary General of the European Borates Association (EBA), and Dr Małgorzata Oledzka from IMA (Industrial Mineral Association) gave a presentation on Borates, covering the following topics:

- Classification & labelling
- GHS global implementation
- Borates under REACH regulation
- Borate Consortium and its second questionnaire.



- **Reach: exposure scenario's**

The ATIEL webpage dedicated to information on use descriptors and generic exposure scenarios (GES) for common lubricant end users was discussed in detail: http://www.atiel.org/Reach_GES.htm.

The objective of this website is to facilitate the communication among the different actors of the supply chain. All substances used in lubricant applications will need to be registered for the Identified Uses allocated to Group A (Formulation) in the Lubricant Use Descriptor in DUCC Format table (Section 6.3) and at least one other from Groups B to F.

Below message was sent to UEIL members:

Dear UEIL Member,

The UEIL is represented on the ATIEL/ATC working group on Generic Exposure Scenarios. This group is currently working on producing a set of generic exposure scenario for the lubricants industry. This is aimed to simplify and streamline work that will be required for registration and minimize the need for supply chain communications about uses. ATIEL and ATC web sites facilitate these supply chain communications :

http://www.atiel.org/Reach_GES.htm

*As industry association, please sent out this message to your members. **Each member is then requested to send a copy of the letter to their raw material suppliers and customers.***

- **Biocides, including formaldehyde releasers**

Local biocides legislation had existed in the Netherlands since 1971 and updated in February 2009 to bring it in line with the requirements of the BPD, but this resulted in an enforceable requirement to notify "old biocidal products" that had been sold in The Netherlands prior to January 2009. The notification process is based on that of the BPD, but with very short timescales. The notification period expired on 15th September 2009 and from that date only notified biocides can be sold. It was emphasised that this does not apply directly to metalworking fluids unless they have biocidal claims or they contain biocides not supported for PT13.

Both France (IRNS) and Germany (BG) have published reports on formaldehyde (links). UEIL French member, CSNIL, is in contact with the IRNS on this subject.

The German study concluded that under typical operating conditions - that means using formaldehyde-releasers for conservation of water-mixed MWF - all biocidal products with less than 25 % of free formaldehyde can be used safely.



- **UEIL GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

Due to the lack of attendance of H&E Members to the UEIL Annual Congress, no committee meeting will be organised in Istanbul. However, we are considering a H+E committee meeting during next year's Annual Congress.

- **Tribute to Committee Members**

Robert Stubbs, previous chairman, was thanked by Bert Boomkamp, present chairman, and the other committee members, for his work chairing the H+E committee during the last 7 years. Rob will remain an active member of the committee. Both Dr. Jurgen Muller (director VSI) and Paul Whitehead (chairman UKLA MWF PSG) retire from the UEIL H+E committee and were also thanked for their work.

We wish them all the best for their professional and personal further steps.

