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Minutes of the 9th ICdA H&S Committee Communication guides of former H&S meetings

June 19th, 2012
DIAMANT - CONFERENCE & BUSINESS CENTER
Meeting room NEWTON BC
Boulevard A. Reyers 80
B-1030 BRUSSELS

1- Introduction

Welcome and individual introduction of the participants (cf. file 1 Attendance list); each participant is invited to sign a statement of compliance (Competition law).

Sarp Industries recently applied for becoming an ICdA member. The representative Marc Saturno, present as invitee, situated the main activities of Sarp Industries as Battery recycler, inclusive Ni-Cad batteries.

A short summary is given of the ongoing EU regulatory issues regarding cadmium, which are of high priority on the current agenda of ICdA and REACH Cadmium consortium.

- a) Authorisation on uses of substances, and notably the intention notified by Sweden to present an Annex XV dossier for documenting the urgency for introduction of Cd, CdO and CdS in the candidate-list of substances "to be potentially proposed for Authorisation" (eg.. Annex XIV) . The Reach-Cadmium Consortium decided, together with directly interested companies, specific actions in order to challenge such urgency and to provide relevant information for a good documented Annex XV dossiers.
- b) Restrictions in uses of substances. *Following the new amendment on reg.494/2011 (Cd & Cd compounds restrictions) and the restoration of the phrasing of former Cd-entry in Annex XVII (existing and new Restrictions), the Commission services is urging ECHA to prepare an Annex XV dossier (Restriction) for the uses of Cadmium and cadmium compounds in plastics. The Reach-Cadmium Consortium is interfacing with ECHA-services for providing, here also, coherent and relevant information for a good documented Annex XV dossiers. ICdA secretariat is still following the legal case for annulment of Reg.494/2011*

The provisional agenda proposed by ICdA is adopted with some changes in speakers (cf. file 2 Agenda).



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2- Approval of the minutes of the 8th H&S committee (October 14th, 2011)

The minutes of the eight H&S committee (October 14th, 2011) are approved unanimously.

3- Objectives of the meeting: Communication guides of former H&S meetings

(*Christian Canoo-Noömi Lombaert*) (cf. file 3 ICdA 9th H&S Committee)

It is reminded that the main objective of the ICdA Health & Safety committee is to disseminate the ICdA Guidance document to ICdA member companies and their key personnel.

The Cd/CdO risk assessment having initially showed that there were in Europe risks for workers under current management methodologies, the decision was taken, some 3 years ago, to assist ICdA members with the implementation of the ICdA Guidance document "ICdA Guidance on the management of the risk related to chronic occupational exposure to cadmium and its compounds".

The past H&S committees are reviewed, especially the topic of the current 9th H&S committee which is "Communication guides of former H&S meetings". The aim of this meeting is to discuss about the re-writing of our communication tools namely:

ICdA Guidance document "ICdA Guidance on the management of the risk related to chronic occupational exposure to cadmium and its compounds" and Practical flyers on 'best practices'

4- Discussion and preparation of a revised Guidance ICdA (*Noömi Lombaert*)

A Working group conference call on "the update of the ICdA guidance document" took place prior to this H&S Com (May 31th) with mainly people that were involved in the writing of ICdA guidance 2006 (*Marc De Groof and Dirk Gielen (Nyrstar), Violaine Verougstraete (Eurometaux), Patrick de Metz (SAFT), Howard Winbow (JMB), Frank Van Assche (IZA), Christian Canoo and Noömi Lombaert (ICdA)*).

In her presentation (cf. file 3 ICdA 9th H&S Committee) N. Lombaert presents the **writing strategy proposal** as discussed during the WG conference call.

This writing strategy proposal includes 3 ≠ steps

-Step #1: Revision of the existing guidance document with incorporation of the latest developments but without specific restrictions on length of document and/or format
-Step #2: Distil from (1) a more accessible, user friendly document for plant manager people. It should be more practical, more accessible for 'new readers'. As structure for this document a 5 pager with:

- ✓ general intro,
- ✓ chapter on plant cleanliness,
- ✓ chapter on personal protective equipment (PPE), individual/group hygiene and
- ✓ chapter on medical surveillance is proposed with as annex recommendation flyers



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-Step #3: A real simplified message aimed for the people at the workplace (workers) in forms of a ppt, flyers, fact sheet

Regarding step#3 experiences of SNAM and Nyrstar were communicated. And examples of this kind of materials will be distributed to ICdA (as already received from Nyrstar). Nyrstar also mentions the existence of Napo animated materials.

Regarding PPE it was mentioned by SNAM that there is an obligation in France now to measure cadmium in air corrected from PPE efficiency (with physical control) and information on that was circulated to the attendees.

The above mentioned steps apply to PART II of the ICdA guidance document- Management of the Cadmium risk in chronic occupational exposure. Regarding PART I - Background and Literature review, a revision with latest scientific data will also be done. The lead will be taken by N. Lombaert in collaboration with V. Verougstraete (Eurometaux).

During this H&S com the **writing committee** is assigned according to the different chapters:

- ✓ general intro – lead taken Frank Van Assche (IZA)
- ✓ chapter on plant cleanliness (including air quality)- lead taken by Howard Winbow (JMB)
- ✓ chapter on personal protective equipment (PPE), individual/group hygiene- lead taken by Rolf Rodermund (Xstrata Zinc)
- ✓ chapter on medical surveillance is proposed with as annex recommendation flyers – lead taken by M. De Groof (Nyrstar) and Patrick de Metz (SAFT)

For the chapter on medical surveillance it was agreed to include also the OCdBio topic.

As **timing** it is agreed to receive drafts from the lead persons from the different chapters with a proposed detailed structure by July 14th. A first drafting/ writing exercise should be done by our next H&S com October 23rd. An invitation for that will be sent by N. Lombaert.

5- Discussion and preparation on practical flyers on 'best practices' (Noömi Lombaert)

A Working group conference call on “Drafting of recommendation flyers” took place prior to this H&S Com (June 1st). Those people that presented a topic in one of the past H&S committees were invited to this conference call.

The topics discussed at the several past H&S Com were:

- 1) measuring air quality
- 2) medical monitoring/supervision adapted to cadmium risk
- 3) individual and collective hygiene procedures
- 4) medical surveillance program:
- 5) choosing and maintaining the right personal protective equipment (PPE)
- 6) implementation of a prevention culture in our plants



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In her presentation (cf. file 3 ICdA 9th H&S Committee) N. Lombaert presents the **writing strategy proposal** as discussed during the WG conference call.

This writing strategy proposal includes ≠ steps:

- To start first with the writing exercise of longer, exhaustive versions of recommendations on the 6 topics. This should include indications on 'minimal guidance' and on 'best practices'.
- Starting from this exercise to come down to a 2 pager
- To make besides the 6 specific ones also a kind of overriding flyer including the key issues of the several topics with as aim to show what should be covered in a good Cd risk management

During the H&S committee it is felt that these writing exercise would like double/copy the work as described for the update of the ICdA guidance and it is proposed to write this recommendation flyers as appendices (or summaries after each chapter) in the updated ICdA guidance. Same lead persons as mentioned above will manage this.

6- Follow-up of our Cd-conference in Kunming, China – Nov. 2011 (Noömi Lombaert)

As follow-up of the Cd-conference in Kunming, China – Nov. 2011, an invitation was sent to all presenters for writing a paper concerning their presentation at the conference. The deadline was June 1st 2012. A reminder will be sent since still a lot of papers are missing. Furthermore there is a problem with the Chinese authors to get any feedback from them. Regarding distribution of these proceedings it is proposed to publish them for a certain period of time (e.g. 12 months) at the ICdA website under the member section with a password and make them afterwards free. Since some authors really ask for widely distribution the publication of the proceedings in a booklet format needs to be considered.

7- Occupational Cadmium Bio Indicators Observations (Christian Canoo)

The graphs of the OCdBio results 1,2 and 3 (data 2008, 2009 and 2010) are reviewed, as summarized last year by Prof. Bernard (cf. file 3 ICdA 9th H&S Committee)

The percentage of workers exceeding urinary cadmium levels of 2 or 5 µg/g creatinine and the percentage of workers exceeding blood cadmium levels of 2 or 5 µg/L was presented for 2008-2009-2010 data. These data are shown only with 15 EU-sites included in the Cd biomonitoring and on the other hand also with various numbers of EU-sites included in the Cd biomonitoring (15 EU-sites in 2008, 16 EU-sites in 2009, 18 EU-sites in 2010).

These OCdBio data over the several years include not the same individuals but the same companies.

It is proposed by Howard Winbow to compare if possible the biomonitoring trends before and after 2000. It is also proposed to provide the data with the pre-employed 2000 workers taken out.

Regarding Cd-B it was discussed if we should probably not already expect after 1 year more changes since the half life of Cd is 6 months. But is noted that Cd is still mobilised from the storage in the kidney to the blood and therefore Cd-B results are carrying that in their data.



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Arrangements for OCdBio 4 (data 2011)

Regarding the OCdBio 4 data 2011 collection, anonymous data are sent to ICdA as trustee, the data are aggregated across all respondents and shared with Pr Bernard; Pr Bernard will conduct a review and present us with results probably in the next H&S Ctee with an assessment.

Practically, all companies and plant directions should be encouraged again to participate voluntarily (*questionnaire* to be filled in **before early August**). The technical recommendation is to adopt all the same reported units for the data: $\mu\text{g Cd/g creatinine}$ for Cd_{Urine} (the correction of creatinine concentration is essential for valid interpretation) and $\mu\text{g Cd/L}$ for Cd_{Blood}

8-Settings for the 10th H&S committee and longer term planning

The date for the 10th H&S committee with as theme 'Environmental issues: waste water treatment' was proposed for October 23rd 2012. E. Nottez from SNAM volunteered for preparing the main theme of this 10th H&S committee.

Related to this issue E. Nottez mentioned during the meeting about the EU Waste water ban » for cadmium starting from 2021 and information on that was circulated to the attendees.
