Brexit: its effect on Chemical Regulations / Poison Centre Notification in the EU

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Presenter biography

Dr. MacKinnon worked for Dow Corning Ltd (now Dow Silicones) in South Wales for some twenty years. He held a variety of roles in the Science and Technology function: from hands-on, lab-based research and product development to project and people management. Latterly, he was REACH Coordinator, primarily responsible for communicating everything that this new regulation entailed across all areas of the company: the regulatory experts, scientists, engineers, sales and marketing people, and senior managers & executives.

After leaving Dow Corning, he was briefly a self-employed regulatory consultant before joining with Dr Knoell to set up the UK subsidiary, Dr. Knoell Consult Ltd., from scratch in 2009. The company has gone from strength to strength, working closely with other knoell group companies around the world to deliver regulatory consulting advice and active support to a variety of clients, in the UK, Europe, and beyond.

Presentation abstract

BREXIT

Currently much about Brexit can best be described as uncertain! However, one thing that is certain is the significant impact the United Kingdom leaving the European Union will have on the chemical (and related) industries of the UK and of the rest of the EU, as well as on non-European companies selling their products into the UK and/or the EU. Various scenarios have been discussed and there are several possible outcomes. This presentation will focus on regulatory issues, most specifically on REACH and any equivalent new UK system for the management of chemicals, with particular emphasis on the potential effects on non-European companies wishing to continue to trade into the UK and the EU. Reference will also be made to how trade between the UK and the EU may be impacted.

POISON CENTRE NOTIFICATION (PCN)

A poison centre provides medical advice to citizens and healthcare professionals on health emergencies arising from exposure to hazardous chemicals or to other toxic agents. Companies placing hazardous mixtures on the market in the European Union have to provide information about these mixtures to the relevant national appointed bodies.

This part of the presentation will focus on new requirements for importers and downstream users who place hazardous mixtures on the market in the European Union. A single system administered by the European Chemicals Agency will replace multiple national ones. Deadlines for submission will be addressed together with which kind of mixtures need to be submitted and other required information such as the chemical composition, toxicological information and product category. A new concept, the unique formula identifier (UFI) to be included on labels will be introduced.