WORKSHOP
'Cobalt salts: if not Authorisation, what other Risk Management Options?'

Brussels, Belgium

13 September 2012
9:00 – 17:45 CET

Background: Five cobalt salts (cobalt dichloride, cobalt sulfate, cobalt diacetate, cobalt dinitrate, cobalt carbonate) on the 3rd prioritisation list have been recommended for authorisation by ECHA on 21 December 2011. The Commission's Legislative proposal is currently going through inter-service consultation, and is expected to be notified publicly early September.
A growing number of MS have expressed their concerns over ECHA's recommendation (some have filed a minority position at the December 2011 Member State Committee (MSC) meeting), As a result it is likely that the Legislative Proposal will have to compromise between ECHA's recommendation and other MS minority positions.
The few months preceding the REACH Committee decision (expected in October/November) will be an opportunity for Industry to consider in more depth the realistic and achievable alternative options to the Authorisation procedure available and acceptable to stakeholders.

Aim
In order to maintain and strengthen Industry's presence and credibility with the Regulators in the upcoming debate on other available risk management options, Industry needs to understand in depth the differences between Authorisation, Restriction, and potential 'Other Measures' for the in-scope uses.

Scope:
The focus will be on the cobalt salts and their in-scope uses (see list below).
In addition as the surface treatment sector has appears to be the main concern of the Authorities to date, this will also be relevant to Nickel and Chromium compounds in this sector.
The intermediate status will **not** be debated and it will be conservatively assumed that the surface engineering and polyester catalyst uses are in-scope of Authorisation.

List of Sectors and potential in-scope uses:

- Surface treatments (e.g. plating, passivation, anodising, etc.)
- Use of Cobalt as Essential Element: Industrial and healthcare biotechnology *(biogas, diagnostics, biopharmaceutical precursors): use as an essential micronutrient in fermentation processes*
- Use as Catalyst or Process Agent and miscellaneous uses
    - Polyester catalyst sector (use of cobalt diacetate for the production of PTA, API, DMT)
    - Catalysts in organic synthesis (cobalt sulphate)
    - Anticorrosion agent in industrial water systems
    - Adhesion agent for rubber (except tyres) (cobalt diacetate)
- *Humidity indicator cells (cobalt dichloride)*

Who should participate?

A cross-cut representation of stakeholders interested in the cobalt salts (but also nickel and chromium compounds) including: Upstream (Manufacturers/Producers)/ Downstream Users and Individual companies/Associations in different countries (mainly Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Poland, Hungary, Sweden, Austria, UK, Slovenia, Spain, but all countries are more than welcome), from sectors concerned by the above-listed in-scope uses.
See attached list of invited sectors groups and industry associations, and expected participants.

AGENDA

PART 1 (Morning) **General information and principles (all sectors)**			
Time	**Topic**		**Lead**
9:00	**Introduction**	**Anti-trust** **Regulatory status and industry strategy:** cobalt salts, chromium compounds and nickel salts	Brigitte Amoruso/ Carol Pettit Hans Dommers-huijzen (TBC) France Capon
9:15	**Risk Management Options**	**Comparison of REACH Restriction and Authorisation** • Key features of the two processes o Key activities o Method used to develop them o by whom o Timescales • An industry perspective o Who could be affected along the supply chain o Who is likely to be contacted o What information will be required o Opportunities to provide key information • A regulators perspective o What risk management options are available o Which option is most likely o What their role will be • Advantages and disadvantages of the two processes **Discussion of Stakeholder Views** (Manufacturers/DUs)	Peter Simpson (WCA environment) Rohit Mistry (eftec)

Time	Topic		Lead
9:45	**Risk Management Options** **(Cont'd)**	**Relevance of Occupational Exposure Limits (OELs) and DNELs** **a)** Regulatory elements (1) REACH driven factors (2) Non REACH workplace regulations (3) Occupational Exposure Limits **b)** Do these regulatory elements provide a sufficient basis to control risk?	Steve Williams (CPME) Rodger Battersby /Daniel Vetter/ Jutta Schade (EBRC)
10:30	**Coffee break**		
10:45 **11:45**	**Exposure Scenarios**	**<u>Exposure scenarios</u>** **a) Current levels of protection** (for in-scope uses) i) Relevance of exposure scenarios ii) Assumptions made in REACH exposure assessment iii) Options for refinements for exposure scenarios - additional details, scaling, etc. **b) Overview of REACH exposure scenarios developed** i) How to read, understand and implement these exposure scenarios at DU level? ii) What are the obligations for DU with regard to exposure scenarios? iii) How were the exposure scenarios developed? iv) How to collect further feedback from the DUs?	Rodger Battersby /Daniel Vetter/ Jutta Schade (EBRC)
12:30	**LUNCH**		
13:15	**Risk Management Measures**	**Introduction to "Matrix of other measures" for specific uses in scope of Authorisation.** a) Description of the methodology used to identify "other measures" and undertake SWOT analysis b) Examples of "other measures" to improve/ensure worker protection, including (but not limited to): a. Supply chain management measures, e.g. avoidance of specific physical forms, end-product control b. Technical improvements c. Replacement by alternatives? d. Implementation and reporting of consistent/rigorous workplace exposure monitoring (BREF, other legislation) e. Voluntary agreements **Summary conclusions**	Peter Simpson (wca)

PART 2 **Specific Uses Within Scope – Sector Specific Considerations: ES & Other measures**			
14:15-14:25	**Part 2: aims & expected outcomes - Orientation by Facilitators**		EBRC/wca
5 minute TEA BREAK		**BREAK into WORKING Groups** **and assemble into Groups 1, 2, 3 → see below**	All
14:30 **15:00**	**Sector Break-Out sessions**	**Introduction to each sector** **a)** How is the sector structured (e.g. key countries, suppliers/plating shops for the surface treatment sector), does national legislation exist for workplace control, any other information… **b)** What are the options available? **c)** Where are the cobalt salts not replaceable? (a) not interchangeable? (b) no non-cobalt alternative? Of these non-replaceable applications, which could be of concern?	Peter Simpson (wca)
15:30 **16:45 (plus 15 minutes for preparation of feedback**		**Sector Discussions** a) Orientation by Facilitators – aims & expected outcomes (sector specific) b) Questions to DUs c) Questions from DUs d) Investigation into technical/organisational options e) Ways to improve practical relevance of exposure scenarios f) How is the sector getting organised and who is involved?	EBRC wca CoRC facilitators
17.00 to 17:30	**Feed-back from each Break-out session (3 x 10 mins)**		EBRC/wca/ Group leads
17:30	**Summary Conclusions and Follow-up Actions**		CoRC/CDI
17:45	**END**		

Break-out Groups:

Group 1 - Surface Engineering (Cobalt salts, and also Nickel and Chromium compounds)

- Surface treatments (e.g. plating, passivation, anodising, etc.)

Group 2 – Use of Cobalt as Essential Element

- Industrial and healthcare biotechnology (biogas, diagnostics, biopharma): use as an essential micronutrient for fermentation processes

Group 3 – Use as Catalyst or Process Agent and miscellaneous uses

- Polyester sector (use of cobalt diacetate for the production of PTA, IPA, DMT)
- Catalysts in organic synthesis (cobalt sulphate)
- Anticorrosion agent in industrial water systems
- Adhesion agent for rubber (except tyres) (cobalt diacetate)
- Humidity indicator cells (cobalt dichloride)

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Venue (to be confirmed):
Diamant Conference Centre, Diamant Building, 80 Boulevard Auguste Reyerslaan, 1030 Brussels, Belgium. Website: www.diamant.be

Please note the number of participants is limited due to constraints with the venuw.
Please confirm your attendance via the Doodle poll link below as soon as possible but **until 31 August COB:**
http://doodle.com/fmt3xh6my2hv4iwk

Note: Given the large scale of the event for the CDI, a participation fee of Euros 50.- /person will be requested to cover the cost of the venue.

If you have questions, or cannot attend but would like to participate in some way, please let us know (you can contact **Brigitte Amoruso** by mail (*brigitte.amoruso@thecdi.com)* or on +441483510476), so that we can discuss with you directly.
Please also note that depending on the level of interest and identified issues/topics, the Cobalt Consortium may also arrange to conduct follow-up sessions and/or Webinars.

Thank you!