During the first step- Basic Characterization-BC-the appraiser collects available information to allow reliable estimates of the exposure of the workers and to take the decision whether or not to perform exposure measurements. The second step, or 'Initial Assessment-IA', consists of performing at least 3 (screening test) to 6 representative exposure measurements for the workers of each SEG, in order to demonstrate by using a statistical test whether less than 5% of exposures in the SEG exceed the OELV (compliance). In a third step and based on IA results, a program of 'Periodic Reassessment-PM' determines time intervals ranging from 1 to 3 years for performing new measurements, depending of the levels of exposure. This is based on the assumption that no major changes (e.g. process, RMM, quantities and nature of chemicals) have occurred during this period.

The new EN-689 also takes into consideration simultaneous exposure to several chemicals, and workshift durations higher than 8 hours. The informative annexes give recommendations to determine for example: sampling duration, statistical distribution of exposure measurements results and treatment of representative results lower than the limit of quantification (LoQ).

The new EN 689 is a helpful tool, especially when expertise/science/evidence does not help in the decisions to protect workers exposed to chemicals.

1717b REGULATORY ADVANCES IN CONTROLLING HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES

Bridget Ginnity.

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The REACH and CLP Regulation have given rise to a rich source of information on chemicals and introduced new mechanisms for regulatory control of hazardous chemicals. Occupational health and hygiene practitioners (OHPs) can contribute to the regulatory decision making and can use the increased information and regulatory control to promote the safe use of chemicals in the workplace.

The registration element of REACH has received most attention to date and the final registration deadline under the REACH Regulation for chemical substances manufactured or imported into Europe is imminent, 31 st May 2018. The registration process generates an immense amount of information on the hazardous properties of substances and on how they can be used safely. Some of this information is provided with safety data sheets, such as DNELs (Derived No Effect Levels) and exposure scenarios. Much more information, including toxicological data, is available on the website of ECHA, the European Chemicals Agency.

REACH and the CLP Regulation provide for the regulatory control mechanisms of authorisation, restriction and harmonised classification and labelling. These mechanisms are intended to protect workers, consumers and the environment. OHPs can engage with these processes to ensure that decisions are made with reliable, up-to-date information on what is happening in the field. By knowing the regulatory status of chemicals used on site, OHPs can ensure regulatory compliance and promote the safe use of chemicals in their company.

1717c BIOLOGICAL MONITORING AND THE USE OF GUIDANCE VALUES IN ASSESSING OCCUPATIONAL EXPOSURES

Kate Jones.

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Biological monitoring is a useful tool for assessing systemic exposure, particularly for substances absorbed through the skin or where control of exposure relies on respiratory protection. Many organisations propose health-based guidance values (BMGVs) but recognise that there are no 'bright lines' between safe and unsafe levels and avoid the word 'limits'. Where a health-based BMGV is not possible, a non-occupational exposed background or reference value may be proposed. Exceeding such a reference value then indicates the likelihood of occupational exposure and possibly the need to review workplace controls. Great Britain (GB) has an alternative approach based on the 90th percentile value of biological monitoring data from workplaces following good occupational hygiene practice. It is not health-based and exceeding it simply indicates a need to review, and possibly improve controls.

This presentation will give an overview of biological monitoring, its role in occupational exposure assessment and the derivation and use of guidance values in interpreting results and determining future action.

1717d OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH & INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE PARTNERSHIP AT CORPORATE & SITE LEVEL

Michel Vangeel.

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A close partnership, collaboration and communication between Occupational Health and Industrial Hygiene is key. The outcome of the IH risk assessment should form the bases of the medical surveillance program. Work related health complaints reported at Occupational Health should be investigated by the IH department. Close communication at different levels is mandatory. In the first part of the presentation, the structure and partnership at Johnson and Johnson Corporate Level will be shared. In the second part, examples of collaboration at a J and J site (Janssen Campus Belgium) will be highlighted. Strong collaboration creates benefits on Corporate, Site, Departmental and Personal level.

927 AUDIT OF A FUEL DISTRIBUTOR COMPANY TANK TRUCK LOADING OPERATIONS IN THE STATE OF RIO GRANDE DO SUL/BRAZIL

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Introduction This case study presents the result of labour inspection intervention in one of the largest distribution terminal of petroleum-derived fuels in Brazil. The inspection