



Meeting Summary

Consumer Chemical Sector Working Group (CCSWG) Fifth Meeting (Teleconference) January 18, 2005 (1:30 pm to 3:00 pm EST)

Present:

Stephen Rathlou - Canadian Consumer Specialty Products Association
Gujinder Gill - Soap and Detergent Association of Canada
Jill Courtemanche - Canadian Association of Poison Control Centres
Stan Sandler – Packaging Association of Canada
Lorraine Bennett - Canadian Paint and Coatings Association
Sarfaraz Dhalla - Adhesives and Sealants Manufacturers Association of Canada
Lisa Wardell - Consumer Product Safety Bureau, Health Canada (Chairperson)
Ken Loewen - Consumer Product Safety Bureau, Health Canada
Cecylia Bilous - Consumer Product Safety, Alberta & NWT, Health Canada

Observers:

Shannon Coombs - Canadian Consumer Specialty Products Association
Linda Toy - WHMIS Program, Health Canada
Kailash Gupta – U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC)
Mary Toro - U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC)
Pierre Petelle, Deborah Ramsingh, Lisa Woods – Pest Management Regulatory Agency

Meeting Summary:

Agenda item 1 - Welcome, Member Introductions

- Participants of teleconference were introduced
- The agenda (PACER) was reviewed and accepted.

The purpose of the meeting was as follows:

1. To begin discussions on the following GHS hazard classes: Gases Under Pressure, Target Organ System Toxicity – Single Exposure, and Aspiration Toxicity Hazard. (No positions or preferred options were discussed at this time).

Update on Other Activities:

Members were advised that an Ad Hoc Expert Group for Chronic Hazards would soon be established. The Group will be examining implementation of the GHS chronic hazard classes for consumer chemical products. Members were asked if they or another person within their organization would be interested in participating on this Group. A first possible meeting is being planned for February 2005.

Members were advised that a teleconference was held with the CPSC in November 2004 to begin sharing information on the GHS implementation. A summary of the teleconference was provided. Highlights included plans for on-going exchanges at the technical level and that CPSC representatives were invited to observe CCSWG meetings.

Agenda Item 2 - Highlights from Discussions:

The members reviewed the discussion guide prepared for this meeting. While the discussion guide was developed to assist in the discussions, members were invited to recommend any additional options or add any comments during or after the meeting.

For Gases Under Pressure, concern was expressed regarding labelling of empty containers (may be misleading, some exceptional cases).

For TOST – Single Exposure, concern was expressed that this hazard class may not be appropriate to cover quick skin-bonding adhesives.

For Aspiration Toxicity Hazard, concern expressed with Category 2 and its use in other countries. Concern also expressed with the new health hazard symbol. Anticipate that there will be a large education component for symbol recognition. Skull and crossbones relates better to consumer knowledge/experience of hazard (a mouthful may cause death). Additionally, the skull and crossbones glyph under the GHS is white and has a grin. A black glyph with a frown would be better (more sinister).

Agenda Item 3 - Wrap-Up, Next Meeting:

Members discussed holding a face-to-face meeting in March to begin developing preferred positions with respect to the various options for each hazard class that had been discussed to date. The Government Conference Centre had been tentatively booked for March (23/24 or 30/31) and members would be solicited for preferred dates.