

ECHA-13-A-04-EN

General Report 2012

THE YEAR OF EVALUATION

In 2012, ECHA's priority was to make sure that the substance and dossier evaluations worked well. ECHA met the set deadlines and built up its capacity and efficiency in that area. The Agency also started preparing for the second REACH registration deadline that would come on 31 May 2013.

In order to prepare for the 2013 registration deadline, ECHA updated some of its IT-systems and tools. ECHA also helped companies, especially SMEs, to prepare for the 2013 deadline. The Agency updated Guidance documents, and organised workshops and webinars, some of which were targeted at lead registrants. It also provided support to registrants through its Helpdesk.



MEETING THE EVALUATION TARGETS

Evaluation is a key element in achieving ECHA's first strategic aim: to improve the quality of information in the dossiers that industry submits. The dossier evaluation work was made more efficient and faster in 2012 and ECHA is well underway to reaching its goal of achieving the 5% target by the end of 2013 for the highest tonnage band dossiers submitted by the first registration deadline in 2010. Furthermore, the Agency examined all testing proposals by 1 December 2012 that had been submitted for the first registration deadline.

In 2012, ECHA and the EU Member States adopted the first Community rolling action plan (CoRAP) and listed 90 substances to be evaluated before the end of 2014.

MEETING THE AUTHORISATION TARGETS

ECHA reached the European Commission's target of adding 67 more substances to the Candidate List of substances of very high concern (SVHCs) for authorisation. The list now contains 138 substances and consumers can request information from retailers on them. This helps consumers to choose what to buy.

The target to assess all confidentiality claims was also met. These were the claims in registration dossiers that had been submitted before the end of 2011. The evaluation of the claims enabled the publication of some 30 000 dossiers covering nearly 8000 substances on the ECHA website in 2012.

NEW RESTRICTION PROPOSALS

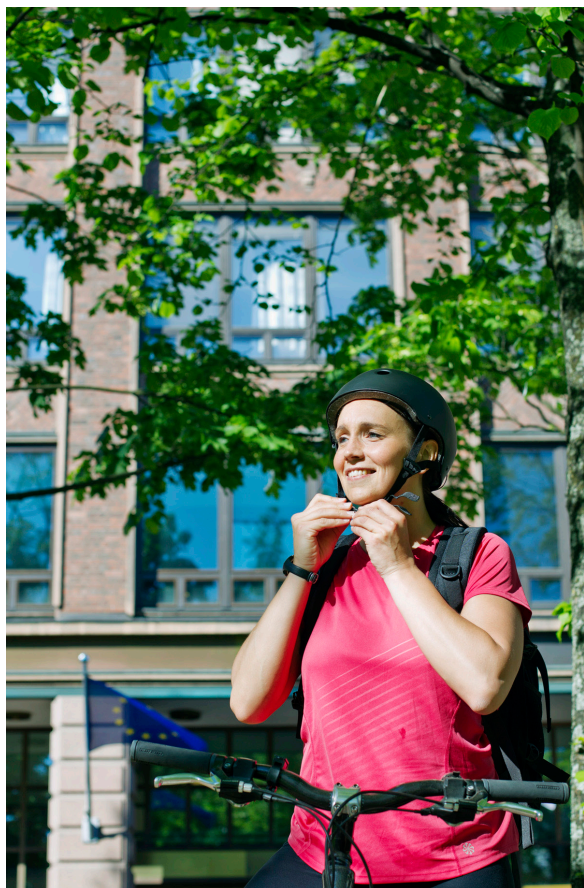
ECHA assisted the European Commission with restriction proposals and supported the Member States in the identification of substances of equivalent concern to be added to the Candidate List of SVHCs. For the first time endocrine disruptors, PBT-like substances and sensitisers were included and proposed for restriction.

NEW TASKS

The Agency was also getting ready to take on two additional pieces of legislation, the Biocidal Products and PIC Regulations. New experts were recruited and trained and working procedures and IT-tools were developed.

Due to these new tasks, ECHA became a unique agency from a financing angle. It continued to be fully self-financed for its activities under the REACH and CLP Regulations but received its first EU subsidies to cover its responsibilities under the new regulations.

Having met the deadlines and targets and owing to the preparatory work undertaken in 2012, ECHA is ready to take on the challenges that it is facing in 2013.



Output figures for 2012

HELPING COMPANIES TO COMPLY WITH THE CHEMICALS LEGISLATION

Registration dossiers (including updates)	9 773
PPORD notifications assessed	610
Inquiries concluded	1 632
Requests for access to data older than 12 years	109
Concluded testing proposal examinations	416
Concluded compliance checks	354
Alternative name requests processed	13
Company size checks	315

ADVANCING THE SAFE USE OF CHEMICALS

Proposals for harmonised classification and labelling	25
Substances on the CoRAP evaluated by member states	36

PROVIDING INFORMATION ON CHEMICALS

Helpdesk and newsroom enquiries processed	~5 700
Confidentiality requests assessed	1 110

ADDRESSING CHEMICALS OF CONCERN

Restriction proposals	5
Proposals for identification as SVHC	67
Authorisation applications	0

OTHER

Access to documents decisions	70
Appeals	8
Number of statutory staff	529
Total expenditure	95 mill.