ASKREACH AND SCIP DATABASES

SIMILARITIES, DIFFERENCES AND RESEARCHED SYNERGIES

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German Environment Agency

2021/01/21
No. LIFE16 GIE/DE/000738

AskREACH and SCIP

Franco Tinè Fotolia

AskREACH Database

- Proposal submission: 2016
  Kick-off: September 2017
- Motives behind AskREACH already presented
- European app Scan4Chem, linked with AskREACH database
- Positive feedback received from presentations at national/international events

SCIP Database

- WFD amendment (EU 2018/851) came into force July 2018
- WFD (Article 9 – Waste prevention) linked to REACH Regulation (Art.33 – Communication of SVHCs in articles)
- ECHA: new database with article SVHC information. Access to waste operators/recyclers and consumers
- Public call for input (Fall 2018)
- SCIP workshops (2018 & 2019)
- SCIP IT user group (UBA-AskREACH participation)

Umwelt Bundesamt

LIFE • ASK REACH

The Project LIFE AskREACH (No. LIFE16 GIE/DE/000738) is funded by the LIFE Programme of the European Union

ECHA supports AskREACH

- **ECHA support letter** (at project submission - August 2016)

  "We aim to work closely with the project team and play an active role in the development and promotion of the project", "We are ready to develop our potential role in the project's "After LIFE".

- New **Statement of support** (March 2019)

  Databases serve the same purposes. Because they have different approaches, they complete each other. AskREACH is further supported and promoted by ECHA. ECHA and AskREACH are in contact to discuss further synergies.

- **"SCIP – AskREACH databases: Separate ways, similar goals"**

  Released document explaining to companies the differences between the two databases and highlighting the need for both to exist (will be available with the presentation)

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ECHA
EUROPEAN CHEMICALS AGENCY

1 (1)

Helsinki, 23 August 2016

D(2016)2757
GD/lj

Maria Krautzberger,
President of the German Federal Environment Agency

Subject: ECHA's support for the EU LIFE project proposal enabling REACH consumer information rights on chemicals in articles by IT tools

Dear Ms Krautzberger,

I am writing to express ECHA's support for the aims of your LIFE project proposal on consumer information on chemicals in articles. I would like to congratulate you for taking the initiative to develop modern tools to help EU consumers to make safer choices. It is particularly encouraging to see that you have gathered a range of Member States and stakeholders as active partners and that you are going to learn from the variety of national tools developed so far. Your project should help in a very direct way to promote the goal of REACH – the safe use of chemicals. With that in mind, we are keen to work with you in making the tools as useful as possible and to help you to promote their use.

As you well know, your project addresses two aspects of the EU's chemicals safety regime that clearly require to be significantly strengthened – consumer awareness and the right to know which substances of very high concern are in products they buy as well as reporting on substances of very high concern in articles. We identified these two challenges in our recent report on the operation of REACH and CLP to the European Commission. We would be keen also to see whether - in the longer term and building on the successful roll out of your project - we can generate more information about substances in articles.

From ECHA's perspective, the timing of your project is therefore most helpful. We are also currently planning ways to increase our outreach to consumers by building a new microsite specifically for them, and increasing our activities on social media. The awareness of dangerous substances in articles they buy is an important area of REACH that needs further promotion to both consumers and suppliers of articles. The app in particular would bring a tangible benefit for European consumers and we are keen to see that it works for them. Consequently, on the outreach to consumers and related communications activities, we are committed to cooperating closely with the project team and to playing an active role in helping you to develop and promote the project.

In terms of the potential hosting and maintenance of the IT platform and related database, we are ready to explore our potential role in the 'After LIFE' of the project with you. In this regard, although I recognise that the project is now still at its very early stage and the fine detail of the scope and technical roll out is for the future, I believe that if we are to play a role in the future, we need to be abreast of your technical choices and plans and, potentially, to advise you on that.

For the time being, I can certainly reassure you that I would not like to see a successful service for the consumers disappearing after the EU funding is exhausted.

Thank you for taking this initiative and for inviting us to be part of this exciting project.

Yours sincerely,

Geert Dancet
Executive Director

ECHA
EUROPEAN CHEMICALS AGENCY

Eva Becker and Heidrun Fammler
AskREACH project team

Statement of support for the

Dear Ms Becker and Ms Fammler

With this letter we wish to expre
increasing consumers' awarenes
supporting their substitution with
the app in our communications channels.

The regular contact with the AskREACH team has been useful in view of our own project to develop a database of articles containing Candidate List substances under the Waste Framework Directive and both teams have proactively informed each other about the progress of their projects.

In our opinion, AskREACH and ECHA's upcoming database under the Waste Framework Directive are two projects with a potential to complement each other in the future - in particular, as they share the same goals. However, they do approach matters from partially different angles: ECHA's database will 'only' collect and disseminate information on articles/products which contain Candidate List substances, while the AskREACH app can also be used to promote products that do not contain such substances.

We are keen to continue the dialogue with the AskREACH project team and look forward to discuss further synergies.

With kind regards,

[Signed]

Jack de Bruijn
Director of Prioritisation and Integration

Databases – similarities and differences

	LIFE • ASK REACH	SCIP
Focus	SVHC substitution Art. 33 implementation/compliance	SVHC substitution Prevention of hazardous waste generation Support circular economy
Content	Products with/without SVHCs > 0.1%	Products with SVHCs > 0.1%
Target groups	Consumers and suppliers (incl. retailers)	Waste operators, recyclers, consumers and suppliers (excl. retailers)
Data submission	Voluntary Bulk upload Barcode range declaration Additional article information possible	Mandatory Bulk as well as system-to-system upload (IUCLID) Additional article information possible
Dissemination of information	Scan4Chem smartphone app Automatic response to SVHC information requests	Platform within the ECHA website (using existing ECHA IT infrastructure)
Identifiers	Barcode (GTIN, Proprietary), Article Name, Brand	ECHA UID (voluntary). Identifiers already in use (EAN, UPC, Catalogue Nr., etc.)
Data responsibility	Information is publicly available. Responsibility for data correctness and updating lies with the supplier	

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Project Timelines

AskREACH present timeline		SCIP timeline (roughly)
• October: phased App-Launch • Supply chain tool usable	Fall 2019	• Technical IT-documentation • IT Architecture: IUCLID format • SCIP IT user group established (AskREACH invited)
• Campaigns put on hold (CoVid-19 pandemic) • App-transfer and campaign replication in other EU MSs	Early 2020	• Database: Development of prototype version (Basic functions)
• New Scan4Chem app version released • AskREACH database: Bulk upload upgraded, Barcode range declaration	Summer 2020	• Transposition of the Directive from EU MSs • SCIP Beta version available and tested
• Campaigns intensifying • Scan4Chem app available in 15 countries	October 2020	• SCIP V.1 release • Phase 1 – Able to receive notifications from the industry and process them in the database
• Campaigns ongoing • App-transfer und campaign replication in other EU MSs	January 2021	• Industry provides all SVHC article information • Phase 2 – Establishment of information dissemination to waste operators/recyclers and consumers (by end of 2021)

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Life

Cooperation potential

Explored synergies

- **Common database suggestion** → rejected (too complicated, legally not possible)
- **2 harmonised databases with common, synchronised Frontend for data submission (ressource efficiency)** → rejected (information requirements, different identifiers, non-/mandatory submission)
- **Smartphone-App: potentially valuable add-on for disseminating information to consumers**

Cooperation potential

- **Different timelines**
- **ECHA is legally mandated: develop & maintain WFD database**
- **Harmonisation between MSs required for SCIP data submission**
- **Different information requirements between consumers and waste operators: "Article definition"**
  - AskREACH: End-product that has the barcode on (may differ in each packaging of the same item)
  - SCIP: Item and packaging are considered separate articles
- **Different identifiers.** GTIN usage is voluntary for SCIP

Obstacles

Cooperation potential

Future collaboration

- **Regular meetings and information exchange between the projects to explore synergies**
- **AskREACH access to SCIP data is accepted to the extent that the legal framework permits**
  - Access of AskREACH to SCIP information through a mapped data procedure that will access only the final article SVHC information
  - Articles not present in SCIP don‘t necessarily correspond to articles with SVHC <0.1%!!!
- **ECHA role to AskREACH „After-LIFE“ plan is under discussion and heavily depends on mandate from EC**

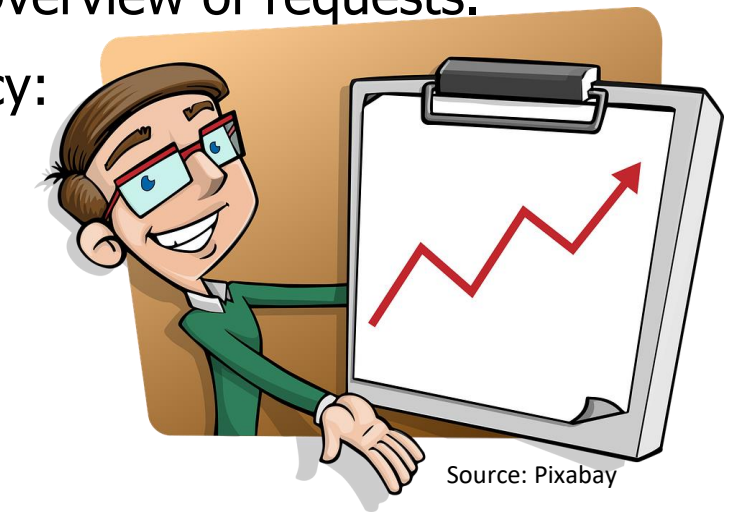
Why use AskREACH as well?

- SVHC requests delivered to the **proper E-Mail address.** Overview of requests.
- **Increasing marketing opportunity** through transparency:

  Submission of article information with < 0,1% SVHCs.
- **Bulk Upload,** submission of whole **Barcode ranges**

  (< 0,1% SVHC) possible.

  Minimal additional workload compared to the benefits.



Source: Pixabay

- Possibility to provide **additional information** about articles and their **safe use.**
- Suppliers **do not have to answer each inquiry individually.** Further support is provided in the form of response templates, simplified update of submitted data, etc.
- Automatic and immediate access to SVHC information for customers at the point of sale. Uphold the legislative obligation to tell **efficiently and customer-friendly Europe-wide**.
- SCIP compliance – Communication of the "bad" article information ≠ AskREACH presents the "good" article information instead.

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Get it on Google play

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Available on the App Store

https://itunes.apple.com/de/app/scan4chem/id1205416098

Project Website: www.askreach.eu