



Copper Voluntary Risk Assessment: first industry report published on ECHA website

Brussels, July 30 2009: The Copper Voluntary Risk Assessment is the first report from the industry published on the official website of the European Chemical Agency (ECHA).

"This voluntary risk assessment report of copper and copper compounds has been submitted to the European Chemicals Agency by the European Copper Institute. This report is based on the industry initiative to perform a voluntary risk assessment on a substance according to the mechanisms of the implementation of the Existing Substance Regulation (EEC) No 793/93 (ESR). The procedure was agreed by the 11th Joint Meeting of the Competent Authorities for the Implementation of Directive 67/548/EEC and ESR Regulation. Italy has been acting as a reviewing Member State for the substance and the risk assessment report has been reviewed by the Technical Committee on New and Existing Substances (TC NES) according to standard operational procedures of the Committee." reports ECHA.

The Copper Voluntary Risk Assessment (VRA) is published under the ECHA CHEM web section where public information and documents from REACH processes are available.

[Click here to access the full dossier on ECHA website.](#)

A pioneering industry



In 2000, the copper industry initiated a voluntary risk assessment for copper. The assessment process was agreed with the Italian Government's Istituto Superiore di Sanità, acting as the review country on behalf of the European Commission and the EU Member States.

In May 2005, on behalf of the European Copper Institute, Italy submitted the draft risk assessment for review by the European Commission and EU Member States. In April 2008, after three years of detailed analysis and improvement, this review process was completed. The risk assessment dossier has been agreed by the European Commission's Technical Committee for New and Existing Substances and The European Commission's Scientific Committee on Health and Environmental Risk (SCHER) performed a final evaluation and further endorsed the conclusions on the environmental and human health risk characterisations.

This comprehensive assessment, covering the production, use and end-of life aspects of the copper value chain, shows that the existing legislative framework generally safeguards Europe's environment, the health of industry workers and the general public.

[Click here to download the Executive Summary of the Copper VRA.](#)

About the European Copper Institute:

The European Copper Institute (ECI) is a joint venture between the world's mining companies (represented by the International Copper Association, Ltd) and the European copper industry. Its mission is to promote copper's benefits to modern society across Europe through its headquarters in Brussels and its network of eleven national Copper Development Associations.

www.eurocopper.org