Forum: Helping your Hazard Assessments

Developing high-quality hazard assessments is critical for communicating the toxicity chemicals. It can be a resource-intensive and time-consuming exercise--information provided by suppliers is often inadequate, new toxicity information is constantly being developed, and experts can disagree on how to interpret the same set of information. At the same time, some chemicals have very limited or no toxicity information. This forum will delve into some of the best practices for conducting a scientifically-supportable hazard assessment, with an emphasis identifying relevant toxicity information and documenting defensible classification conclusions.

Forum Discussion Questions/Topics

- To what extent do you look for toxicity information beyond what is provided by an upstream supplier?
- What are the primary resources you use for identifying toxicity information?
- How do you resolve conflicting information?
- What do you do if the data you find does not agree with a harmonized hazard conclusion?
- What do you do if you can't find any data?
  - Use read-across, QSAR data?
- Where/how do you record your toxicity data and conclusions?
- How are you made aware of updated toxicity information?
- Are toxicity assessments used for making SDSs or for other functions at your company—if so are there any challenges with everyone getting on the same page?

Forum Discussion Questions/Topics

- What are you biggest challenges in having reliable toxicity assessments to support hazard classifications?
- Do you think you have the appropriate resources to conduct toxicological assessments?
- Do you have a specific protocol for conducting assessments and for making conclusions? Do you think the process is done consistently across staff and chemicals?
- Are you planning for newer endpoint assessments (e.g., endocrine, immunotoxicity, neurotoxicity)?

Forum Discussion Questions/Topics

- **Read-Across Specifics:**
  - What criteria do you consider when comparing chemicals for read-across?
  - Do you have a protocol for justifying use of a particular chemical for read-across?
  - Do you consider different read-across analogs for different toxicity endpoints?
  - Have you considered multiple read-across analogs for the same chemical or endpoint?