

EU News Digest

A selection of headlines in the areas of chemicals, environment, consumer products and occupational safety regulations over the past month:

Chemicals/Reach/CLP

01 March	Cefic guidance on handling process for safety data sheets
01 March	Chemicals Legislation European Enforcement Network (CLEEN) announces a new enforcement project for detergents
05 March	ECHA draft revision of Chapter R.7a of the guidance of information requirements and chemical safety assessment sent to PEG for consultation
05 March	Poland publishes template for sending information on hazardous mixtures
07 March	ECHA publishes information on consumer articles containing substances of very high concern (SVHCs)
15 March	LIFE+ 2012: Commission calls for project proposals for funding on environment and policy governance including REACH
14 March	Cefic letter and fact sheet on Communication of uses along the supply chain for 2013 registration
16 March	ECHA launches a six-month public consultation on the proposed restriction of chromium VI in leather articles

Cosmetics

06 March	Minutes of 26th Working Group on Cosmetic Ingredients of 6 March 2012
06 March	Cosmetics industry publishes guiding principles on non-animal testing approaches for Skin sensitisation
13 March	SCCS - Minutes of 20th Working Group on Nanomaterials in Cosmetic Products of 7 March 2012
13 March	SCCS - Minutes of 11th Working Group on Nitrosamines of 2 March 2012
15 March	SCCS - Minutes of 24th Working Group on Hair Dyes of 28 February 2012
15 March	France notifies proposal to ban CMR substances in tattoos products
21 March	SCCS - Request for a scientific opinion on the Acetaldehyde
26-Mar-12	SCCS - Request for a scientific opinion: Hair dyes substances and hydrogen peroxide used in products to colour eyelashes

Environment

15 March	EU Commission opens 7th EU Environment Action Programme consultation
5 March	EU Commission publishes draft study on the potential for reducing mercury pollution from dental amalgam and batteries
29 March	Council and the European Parliament reach informal agreement on the Seveso III Directive

Food

5-Mar	EFSA publishes Implementing Rules for Independence Policy
7-Mar	EFSA opens up scientific meetings to Observers in pilot project
9-Mar	Council approves new rules for fruit juices
13-Mar	EFSA - Relationships between animal welfare hazards and animal-based welfare indicators
15-Mar	EFSA - Preparatory work in the establishment of Dietary Reference Values for vitamins A, C, E, K
16-Mar	EFSA - Improvements to the functionalities of the Information Exchange Platform
21-Mar	Commission Regulation (EU) No 231 /2012 of 9 March 2012 laying down specifications for food additives listed in Annexes II and III to Regulation (EC) No 1333/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council
22-Mar	Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No 250/2012 of 21 March 2012 reduces rate of consignment checks for Japan imports
22-Mar	EFSA - Guidance on the scientific requirements for health claims related to appetite ratings, weight management, and blood glucose concentrations (See the outcome of the public consultation)
22-Mar	EFSA - Scientific Opinion on the 'Biomation' application for an alternative method for the treatment of animal-by-products
27-Mar	EFSA - Inventory of available data and data sources and proposal for data collection on vector-borne zoonoses in animals
28-Mar	Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No 274/2012 of 27 March 2012 amending Regulation (EC) No 1152/2009 imposing special conditions governing the import of certain foodstuffs from certain third countries due to contamination risk by aflatoxins
29-Mar	Opinion of the Advocate General Mazak of 29.03.2012 in Case C-544/10, Deutsches Weintor eG Vs. Land Rheinland-Pfalz Re: Interpretation of Article 4(3) of Regulation (EC) No 1924/2006 on nutrition and health claims made on foods - Description of a wine as digestible with a reference to reduced acidity - Prohibition of health claims made in relation to beverages containing more than 1.2% by volume of alcohol - Meaning of 'health claims'
30-Mar	Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No 284/2012 of 29 March 2012 revising special conditions on imports from Japan
30-Mar	EFSA - Scientific Opinion on the minimum hygiene criteria to be applied to clean seawater and on the public health risks and hygiene criteria for bottled seawater intended for domestic use

Feed

20 March	EFSA - Report for 2010 on the results from the monitoring of veterinary medicinal product residues and other substances in live animals and animal products
27 March	Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No 269/2012 of 26 March 2012 concerning the authorisation of dicopper chloride trihydroxide as feed additive for all animal species
29 March	Commission Regulation (EU) No 277/2012 of 28 March 2012 amending Annexes I and II to Directive 2002/32/EC as regards maximum levels and action thresholds for dioxins and polychlorinated biphenyls
29 March	Commission Regulation (EU) No 278 /2012 of 28 March 2012 amending Regulation (EC) No 152/2009 as regards the determination of the levels of dioxins and polychlorinated biphenyls

Food Contact Materials

01 March	Proposal for Belgian Law amending the law of 24 January 1977 on consumer health protection with regard to foodstuffs and other products, aimed at prohibiting the use of bisphenol A in foodstuff containers
29 March	EFSA - Scientific Opinion on the safety evaluation of the active substances, activated carbon, water, iron powder, kaolin calcined, sulphur and sodium chloride for use as active component in food contact materials
29 March	EFSA - Scientific Opinion on the safety evaluation of the substance, titanium nitride, nanoparticles, for use in food contact materials
29 March	EFSA - Scientific Opinion on the safety evaluation of the substance, 1,2-benzisothiazol-3(2H)-one 1,1-dioxide, sodium salt, CAS No. 128-44-9 , for use in food contact materials
29 March	EFSA - Scientific Opinion on the safety evaluation of the active substances, sodium borohydride and palladium acetate for use in active food contact materials

General Product Safety

02 March	Weekly overview report of RAPEX notifications - Report 9/2012
9 March	Weekly overview report of RAPEX notifications - Report 10/2012
16 March	Weekly overview report of RAPEX notifications - Report 11/2012
23 March	Weekly overview report of RAPEX notifications - Report 12/2012
28 March	SCENIHR - Request for an updated scientific opinion on the safety of PIP silicone breast implants
30 March	Weekly overview report of RAPEX notifications - Report 13/2012

Nanotechnology

05 March	EU guide to responsible nano-business
13 March	EU scientists highlight carcinogenic potential of carbon nanotubes
13 March	SCCS - Minutes of 20th Working Group on Nanomaterials in Cosmetic Products of 7 March 2012
28 March	SCENIHR - Request for a scientific opinion on Health effects of nanomaterials used in Medical Devices
21 March	Draft appendices for nanomaterials to chapter R.7a, b and c of the guidance of information requirements and chemical safety assessment sent to Caracal for consultation

Pesticides / Biocides / Pesticide Residues

06 March	Commenting on draft assessment report for new active substances under the scope of Regulation (EU) No 188/2011
16 March	Commission Regulation (EU) No 223 /2012 of 14 March 2012 amending Regulation (EC) No 2003/2003 relating to fertilisers for the purposes of adapting Annexes I and IV thereto to technical progress
16 March	Kemi (Sweden) publishes results of survey on biocide treated articles
20 March	EFSA - Review of the existing maximum residue levels (MRLs) for according to Article 12 of Regulation (EC) No 396/2005
21 March	EFSA - Scientific Opinion on clustering and ranking of emissions of plant protection products from protected crops (greenhouses and crops grown under cover) to relevant environmental compartments
21 March	Use of the EFSA Standard Sample Description for the reporting of data on the control of pesticide residues in food and feed according to Regulation (EC) No 396/2005
22 March	Opinion of the Commission pursuant to Article 294(7)(c) of the TFEU, on the European Parliament's amendment[s] to the Council's position regarding the proposal for a Regulation concerning the placing on the market and use of biocidal products
27 March	Commission Regulation (EU) No 270/ 2012 of 26 March 2012 amending Annexes II and III to Regulation (EC) No 396/2005 as regards maximum residue levels for amidosulfuron, azoxystrobin, bentazone, bixafen, cyproconazole, fluopyram, imazapic, malathion, propiconazole and spinosad in or on certain products

Toys

05 March	Commission Directive 2012/7/EU of 2 March 2012 reduces permitted Cadmium levels in toys
20 March	Commission Decision of 1 March 2012 approving some of Germany's lower migration limits for certain substances in toys
29 March	SCHER - Opinion on tris(2-chloroethyl) phosphate TCEP in Toys

Mayer Brown Product Regulatory News & Events

5-6 March	European Chemicals Policy Conference, Brussels - Presentation by Jean Philippe Montfort on Interplay between Authorization and Restriction
30 March	Mayer Brown Product Regulatory team awarded "Tier 1" in the 2012 Edition of Legal 500 in the categories "Product Regulatory-Chemicals (REACH)" and "product Regulatory -Food"
9-10 May	Sébastien Louvion to speak at Food Contact Plastics Global Regulatory Summit 2012 organized by European Plastics News: "Leveraging Food Contact Compliance for new toy markets: what plastic manufacturers need to know about the new EU Toy Safety Directive"
16-17 May	Sébastien Louvion to speak at Global Food Contact 2012 Conference in Baltimore, organized by Pira on "Update on regulation of nanomaterials for food contact applications on both sides of the Atlantic"
31 May	Mayer Brown Brussels 20th Anniversary Conference. Morning session will be devoted to "Product Safety in a Global Market" see the draft programme

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