

NEWSLETTER

Volume 19, number 2,
July 2013



This Newsletter is a periodic publication of DOHSBASE v.o.f. and appears at least at each update of the software DOHSBase Compare

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‘WHAT’S NEW IN UPDATE 13-02’

This Newsletter is issued simultaneously with the dissemination of update 13-02 of DOHSBase Compare. In this update, all limits and measurement methods (national and international) and substance information is up to date to June 15, 2013. New in this update are:

- Expansion of the number of limit values, measurement methods and substance information;
- The inclusion of the full advisory reports of the Dutch Health Council and DECOS from 1989 onwards;
- Adapting the CAS-number of identical substances with two harmonized CLP-classifications.

The numbers of the different data are in the file RDME1302.TXT, which is included in the update.

NEW: ENGLISH VERSION

At the conference of the British Occupational Hygiene Society in Manchester (BOHS, April 2013, <http://www.bohs.org/events/annual-conference>) the UK-version of DOHSBase Xtend was introduced. The UK-Xtend version uses the EU hierarchy in which the English Workplace Exposure Limits (WEL) and the Biological Monitoring Guidance Values (BMGV) come first, followed by the European binding limit values, the IOLVs, the SCOEL- and SEG-advised and health-based OEL's of the USA, the Netherlands (Health Council) and Germany.

The English version of DOHSBase Compare Xtend 13-02 can be ordered from our website: <http://www.dohsbase.com>.

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Price adjustment NL-Standard

We are forced to increase at January 1, 2014 the license price for the NL-Standard up to 15 euros per license. The number of subscriptions for this 'original version' of DOHSBase is steadily decreasing, because the price-difference with the Xtend versions is small, while there are much more data available in these versions. The maintenance costs increase thereby relatively fast.

The license fee for the NL-Standard version by January 1, 2014 is (excl. VAT):

- Up to 10 licenses: €115,- per license
- More than 10 licenses: € 95,- per license

Email Newsletter /

E-Zine

In order to communicate better with our customers, users and other interested parties, we started an email newsletter. This e-Zine will appear more frequently than the newsletter in print. We call on you to sign up as a subscriber to our email newsletter. This can be done via our website:

<http://www.dohsbase.nl/en/dohsbase-news/newsletters/>.

Registration is free, and you can always unsubscribe. Your data (name, mail) will only be used for our communication purposes and are not shared with other organizations.



NEW: FRENCH VERSION

Upon recent request a French version of DOHSBase Compare Xtend 13-02 has become available. The French Xtend-version uses the EU hierarchy in which the French VLE (Valeurs Limites d'Exposition professionnelle aux agents chimiques, ED 984, 2012) come first, followed by the European binding limit values, the IOLVs, the SCOEL- and SEG-advised OEL's and then the health-based OEL's of the USA, the Netherlands (Health Council), Germany (DFG) and the UK Biological Monitoring Guidance Values (BMGV).

Although the program screen texts are by default in French, the non-French record information and the Help is in English. The French version of DOHSBase Compare Xtend 13-02 can be ordered from our website:

<http://www.dohsbase.com>.

DATA LICENSING

Increasingly DOHSBase is asked to provide data for the in-company registration databases of dangerous substances. Recently we are able to supply this information by means of our 'Data Licensing' option.

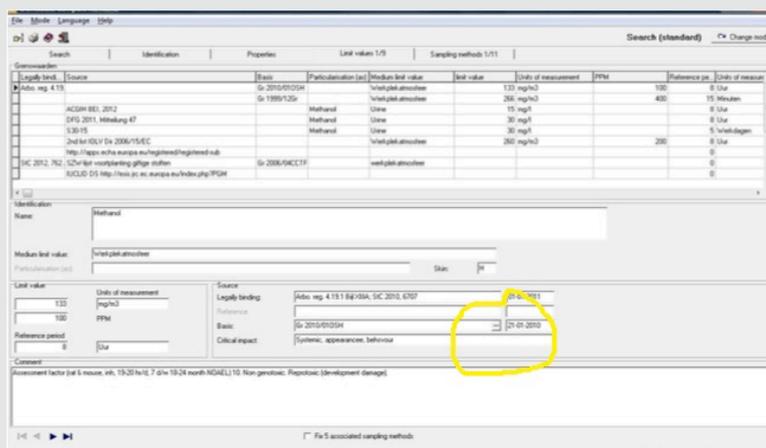
DOHSBase has a very comprehensive database of virtually all internationally well-known occupational exposure limits, measurement methods, classification and labeling information and physico-chemical properties of dangerous substances. These are obviously rigorously maintained and updated. As the needs of customers vary greatly, a tailor made solution is offered. Are you interested? Please let us know by mail (consultancy@dohsbase.nl) or via our website www.dohsbase.com.

ADVISORY REPORTS DUTCH HEALTH COUNCIL AND DECOS AS PDF-DOCUMENTS

Summaries of the EU-SCOEL and advisory the reports of the Dutch Health Council and its predecessors are the only public, good-quality and free-of-charge scientific criteria documents on occupational exposure limits in the European Union. From the beginning of DOHSBase in 1992 the advisory reports from the Dutch Health Council and its predecessor Dutch Expert Committee on Occupational Standards (DECOS) on Health-based OEL's and assessments of carcinogenicity, mutagenicity and reproductive toxicity have been included in the software. The advisory reports published since 1999, are already included in PDF-format in DOHSBase Compare. Of the earlier reports only the summaries in rtf-format were included, while many legal limits and the former MAC-values are based on the often excellent health-based OEL advices of DECOS until 1994 and the Health Council since 1995.

In the first semester of 2013, the hard-copies of the older advisory reports from the Health Council and DECOS, from the DOHSBase library, were scanned to searchable PDF-files. In update 2013-02 these pdf-documents are included in DOHSBase Compare as integral documents in searchable PDF-format. In the next six months, we also intend to have the DECOS-reports before 1989 scanned. Our goal is to include in the software all still relevant advisory reports of DECOS and Health Council, as integral PDF-documents in update 2014-01.

The PDF and RTF-documents (for the advisory DECOS-reports of 1988 and earlier) can be opened by clicking the button with the three dots in the box 'Basis' (tab 'Limits', section 'Sources').



WORKSHOP SEPTEMBER 17, 2013

On Tuesday, September 17, 2013, a workshop DOHSBase Compare will be held in Utrecht, the Netherlands. During this one-day workshop you will learn how you can get more from the software. The purpose of the workshop is to use and experience the added value of the software, in conjunction with the daily practice of assessing exposure to hazardous substances. The consistency with other approaches (such as the policy of the EU 'Chemicals at Work' directive and REACH) and the use of different assessment systems (such as the NVvA/BOSH compliance testing guidance) will be discussed.

The workshop is honored with one point in the Dutch certification system for occupational hygienists (SAH) and safety experts (SVK). More information and a registration form are on our website (in Dutch): www.dohsbase.nl/workshops/.

English versions and in company versions of this workshop can also be arranged. If you are interested, do not hesitate to mail us: events@dohsbase.nl.

ADJUSTMENT OF THE CAS-NUMBER FOR SUBSTANCES WITH TWO EU INDEX-NUMBERS

The European Union uses for the classification and labelling of substances in addition to the CAS-number and the EC-number also an Index-number. For a limited number of substances, there are two Index-numbers with the same CAS-number. This is particularly the case with substances in solution.

Take, for example hydrochloric acid. The CAS-number for hydrochloric acid is 7647-01-0. The Index-number for the pure substance is 017-002-00-2. The Index-number for '.% hydrochloric acid solution' is 017-002-01-X, with the same CAS-number. This leads to problems with regard to the substance information. The unique CAS-number leads to two different 'substances'.

To eliminate this problem, we have chosen to change in this situation the last digit of the CAS-number. This digit is a "checksum" and is used to determine whether the CAS-number meets the requirements. We have changed the checksum of a CAS-number in the %-sign. This means in the example '.% hydrochloric acid solution' that the CAS number changed to 7647-01-%. There are about 25 substances where this situation occurs. All these substances have been given the % as the last digit in the CAS-number. The list of the substances concerned can be found on our website.

EVALUATION OF KICK-OFF VALUES

In 2005 DOHSBase developed and published the concept of so-called Kick-off values and its values

(<http://www.dohsbase.nl/en/content-2-2-2/kick-off-limits/>), replacing the arbitrary control bands. For several years the kick-off values have a clear place in the Dutch OEL-policy. Thus, the kick-off limits are accepted by the Dutch Law Enforcement as provisional OELs in the assessment of exposure to hazardous substances (substances register, see also (in Dutch): <http://www.zelfinspectie.nl>).

The kick-off limits are based on the relationship between grouped R-phrases and OELs. Because the R-phrases are completely replaced by H-phrases (CLP) and the H-phrases are partly differently defined than R-phrases, DOHSBase has decided to evaluate the kick-off values methodology. This means that the new relationship between grouped H-phrases and our (much larger) database with health limits shall lead to a new kick-off value structure.

It is our intention to present the new kick-off values on the annual symposia of the Occupational Hygiene Societies in Europe (BOHS, NVvA) (April 2014). Do you have any suggestions? Please send an email to consultancy@dohsbase.nl.