

NEWSLETTER

Volume 20, number 2,
July 2014



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

© 2014, DOHSBASE v.o.f.

LAUNCH UPDATED KICK-OFF VALUES

At the conferences of the occupational hygiene societies in the Netherlands, the United Kingdom and the United States of America (resp. NVvA, April 2+3; BOHS, April 8-10; AIHCe, May 31 – June 5) we presented the preliminary results of the re-evaluation of the Kick Off Values. We re-evaluated them, because the Kick Off Values are based on research performed in 2005. Since then substantial changes have taken place:

- the implementation of CLP: other pictograms, H-statements instead of R-phrases;
- more substances with a formal OEL;
- changes in and new Control Banding systems;
- much larger database in DOHSBase Compare.

The preliminary results indicate that the Kick Off Values for the substances classified as the most dangerous (like CMR-substances) are much lower, whereas the Kick Off Values for the least dangerous substances are higher. Our results show that different Control Banding systems gave the best fit for exposure to vapours and for dusts. This is different from the Kick Off Values we calculated in 2005.

The draft-Kick Off Values are presented on our website (www.dohsbase.nl/en/content-2-2-2/draft-kick-off-values-2014).

We are working on a scientific publication, after completion of the round of commentary that we carry out at this moment.

If you have any comments (or a compliment!) about the new draft-Kick Off Values, please contact us by mail:

consultancy@dohsbase.nl. All comments received will be evaluated and taken into account when determining the final Kick Off Values.

In this issue:

- Launch updated Kick-Off Values
- Spanish version
- Wanted: franchisees for international versions
- CLP's ATP-5 incorporated
- IARC Monographs
- Wanted: freelancer for keeping track on foreign OELs
- International conferences: The Netherlands, United Kingdom and USA
- Occupational Hygiene measurements

DOHSBASE v.o.f.

Bospoort 7
5521 CK EERSEL
The Netherlands
www.dohsbase.com
info@dohsbase.nl

Subscriptions:

Fax: +31 84 22 02 442
Mail: admin@dohsbase.nl

Data-licensing:

Fax: +31 84 22 02 442
Mail: data@dohsbase.nl

Help Desk:

Fax: +31 84 22 06 921
Mail: helpdesk@dohsbase.nl

Workshops:

Fax: +31 84 22 06 921
Mail: events@dohsbase.nl

Consultancy:

Fax: +31 84 22 06 921
Mail: consultancy@dohsbase.nl

CLP's ATP-5 incorporated

On October 2, 2013 the EU published the Commission Regulation amending for the fifth time, for the purposes of its adaptation to technical and scientific progress, Regulation (EC) No 1272/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council on classification, labelling and packaging of substances and mixtures (ATP-5; No 944/2013).

The substances have been given a new or revised harmonized classification with this regulation (including pictograms and H-phrases) are included in update 2014-02 with the new information. All hazardous substances with harmonized classification and labelling by the European Union are therefore incorporated in DOHSBase Compare.

IARC Monographs

For several years, some of the recently published monographs by IARC (International Agency for Research on Cancer) are included in DOHSBase Compare as a pdf-file. In these monographs, an assessment is made whether a substance should be considered as a carcinogenic substance. Unfortunately, some of the references to the IARC Monographs were not correct in the program. By clicking on the report (Tab Limits, text field: Source), you would not see the correct pdf-file of the IARC Monograph.

We have improved this in this update and restored the hyperlinks, so you get to see the correct IARC report.



SPANISH VERSION

Behind the scenes we are working on a version of DOHSBase Compare for the Spanish market. We do this in close collaboration with the Spanish Society for Occupational Hygiene (Asociación Española de Higiene Industrial; AEHI). On the XII International conference on Occupational Risk Prevention (Zaragoza, May 21-23 2014) the AEHI has launched the beta-version of the software. The Spanish OELs (Límites de Exposición Profesional para Agentes Químicos; LEP) are an integrated and are on the top of the hierarchy of OELs. If there is an advisory report (DLEP), this is also available as a pdf-document in DOHSBase Compare ES Xtend. We have included in the software also the measurement and analytical methods of the Spanish National Institute for Safety and Health at Work (Instituto Nacional de Seguridad e Higiene en el Trabajo; the so-called MTA methods). Our objective is to launch the Spanish version officially in the autumn of 2014. The program is sold in Spain by the AEHI.

In the pre-launch phase of this version, we have started the translation of the Help file in Spanish. The partially translated Spanish Help file is added to update 2014-02. If you choose the display language "Spanish", the Help appears in Spanish (as far as available). In the course of 2014, the entire Help will be translated into Spanish, we will then distribute it through our website and, off course, with the update 2015-01.

WANTED: FRANCHISEES FOR INTERNATIONAL VERSIONS

As you can read in this Newsletter we have planned quite a few international versions. Abroad, our knowledge of the market is rather limited. We therefore seek cooperation with local partners to improve the international versions and the marketing and the sale of the international version, in the form of a franchise for a specific country (or group of countries).

Are you interested to contribute (as a local expert, or franchisee), or do you know someone who would be able to do so? Please contact us at dohsbase@dohsbase.nl. We can then discuss all the possibilities.

WANTED: FREELANCER FOR KEEPING TRACK ON FOREIGN OELs

DOHSBase Compare is made by an enthusiastic group of people, including some who also carry out activities for DOHSBase in addition to their regular work. After years of having gone through the OELs lists of other countries than the Netherlands, Jack Smit (formerly occupational hygienist at Solvay) recently ended its activities and went in retirement. We thank Jack for his contribution for a long period of time! We are therefore looking for an occupational hygienist with an affinity with (non-Dutch) OELs to take Jack's role. There is a sound base to continue Jack's work: keeping track of changes, new and withdrawn OELs from the non-Dutch lists.

Do you want to be part of the DOHSBase team and contribute to the further development of the program? Please contact us at dohsbase@dohsbase.nl. We can tell you more about this activity, the limited time commitment it takes and the (also small) fee.

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES: THE NETHERLANDS, UNITED KINGDOM AND USA

In the months April and June we have attended the symposia of occupational hygiene associations in the Netherlands (NVvA, 2-3 April), the United Kingdom (BOHS, 8-10 April) and the United States (AIHCe, 31 May / 5 June). Not only with a stand to promote our products, but also with presentations and poster sessions. We addressed the following topics:

- Comparison of DNELs with OELVs (presentation)
- Validation of Control Banding Systems (presentation)
- Update of Kick Off Values (presentation)
- Hierarchy of OELs (poster)
- Derivation of a limit of a 'lead substance' in a mixture (poster)

On our website (<http://www.dohsbase.nl/en/news/articles/>) are the presentations and posters for download.

Our presence at the AIHCe is new. We are excited to show our American colleagues what we have built up in knowledge and products about OELs and measurement methods over the last 25 years. Apart from oral presentations, we have presented a beta version of an American version of DOHSBase Compare. In this version the American OELs are on top of the hierarchy. Next to the TLV®'s (ACGIHA), REL's (NIOSH) and WEELs (AIHA), also the Permissible Exposure Limits (PELs) van de Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) are incorporated in this version. The PEL values are the federal statutory OELs in the United States.

We are very interested about the reaction of our American colleagues, and are confident that they will respond just as excited as the Dutch, French, English and Spanish colleagues have done.

OCCUPATIONAL HYGIENE MEASUREMENTS

You hear quite often that fewer and fewer occupational hygiene measurements are being performed. In the Netherlands this would be caused by the increasing use of exposure models (such as Stoffenmanager or ECETOC TRA). In the UK, COSHH Essentials is supposed to be the reason that fewer measurements are being carried out.

The annual conference of the British Occupational Hygiene Society which was held in Manchester in April 2014, proved otherwise. On the information market of the symposium many manufacturers of measuring instruments were represented. An important social event is the reception on the second day. Casella, a well-known producer of OH-measurement equipment, sponsors this for years. They certainly do not do that only for charity.

The stand of DOHSBase was well visited by interested occupational hygienists to view and talk about our software. They were not only representatives of big companies, but also by (smaller) consulting companies. From the interviews we had, we understood that many occupational hygiene consultants have (extensive) measurement programs performed and registered for their clients.

We wonder whether this situation with fairly common occupational hygiene measurements, is also present in the Netherlands. We will start therefore a discussion on the various types of social media on this topic.

