



# NewsFlash

European Voice of the Adhesives and Sealants Manufacturers, since 1972

Issue N°8 - July 2009

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New Working Groups at FEICA

- FEICA has formed a new Working Group for Building and Construction and a new ETB Task Force for Sustainability (see details below under regulatory news)

New FEICA documents: REACH – FEICA User Descriptor

- [FEICA Guidance about the Use Descriptor Codes](#)
- [FEICA Use Descriptors for Registrants](#)
- [FEICA Use Descriptors for Members on the Extranet only](#)
- [Model Letter to be sent to raw material suppliers](#)

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The chemical and chemical user industries began to report an improvement in trading conditions from May 2009 and the EU chemical industry expects further steady improvements throughout 2010.

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Asia/Pacific by ChemADVISOR Inc.

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

FEICA Conference 2009



[Raise the visibility of your company at the FEICA Conference](#)

[Business Development and Sponsoring Brochure](#)

ASC Webinar  
Perspectives on "Going Green" - Marketing, Legal and Technical Implications for Your Business  
*Dr. Shannon Lloyd, Concurrent Technologies*  
*Ms. Sheila Millar, Keller & Heckman*  
*Mr. Reinhard Oppl, Eurofins*  
July 16 & 23, 2009 - 1:00pm  
[website](#)

## Editorial from the Secretary General

Dear All,

With the current economic crisis, new thinking is required. The time has come to break old business rules, find alternative strategies and explore new business options. Attending the FEICA Annual Conference taking place in Budapest from the 16th to the 18th of September will contribute greatly to finding appropriate answers, to broaden your horizons, to enlarge your networking and to relax in an amazing venue.

The 2009 Conference program is of high quality including:

## NEW DOCUMENT ON THE WEBSITE

[REACH Exposure Scenarios: FEISA user descriptor](#)

- Insights into Central & Eastern Europe Markets,
- The latest European economic outlook,
- Management behavioral changes required to remain competitive,
- An update about industry perspectives in Europe, USA and Asia,
- Innovative technical papers,
- An update about EU Legislation including a REACH workshop about exposure scenarios and food contact.
- The Business Forum will focus upon sustainable development and will aim to give answers about how to move from principles towards actions with comments and opinions from a panel of highly reputable speakers from the EU Parliament, NGOs, suppliers and industry.

More Than Ever, Let's Stick Together.



**European Adhesives & Sealants Conference 2009**

**EARLY REGISTRATION DISCOUNT until July 5, 2009**



On the 16th of September at 1500h, the FEICA General Assembly will take place in Budapest. Elections will be held for a new Vice President, the members of the Executive Board and the Chairmen of the European Technical and Business Boards for another 2 years. If you wish to make nominations for these posts or offer yourself as a candidate, please contact the secretariat before middle of July.

FEICA is continuing to increase its membership with considerable success.

We are very pleased to welcome two new direct members:

C.O.I.M. of Italy (<http://www.coimgroup.com>) and ORGANIK KIMYA of Turkey (<http://www.organikkimya.com>).

Jean Marc and the entire FEICA secretariat wish you a relaxing and enjoyable summer vacation. We look forward to seeing you all in Budapest in September.

Jean Marc Barki



Bernard Ghyoot



## Words from the ETB

### Words from Bernd Burchardt, FEICA Executive Technical Board Director

My first 2 years as chairman of the ETB.



When I was asked to take over the chair of the ETB I did not hesitate to say yes since I have been a member of the ETB since its beginning. I was always impressed by the specific knowledge of the members and the commitment for cooperation. From my own perspective it was amazing to see the increase of work connected with this chairmanship, because there are upfront a lot of issues that have to be clarified through specific discussion. So being the chairman of the ETB means a lot of work just to oversee all the papers coming in and to screen for issues importance to FEICA.

The general strategy of the ETB, from my perspective, was to continue and increase the political influence of FEICA with respect to chemical legislation to enable FEICA member companies continue with their business without the burden of undue restrictions. I may mention here tin catalyst and Cyclohexane.

The active work of FEICA on REACH, with its Exposure Scenario WG, and also by cooperating on the DUC platform was another major step forward.

This work was recognized by other companies and brought new members like sealant and OCF produces which have already started their own working group.

Also new is the WG for Construction and Sustainability, which will help FEICA member companies to develop their own sustainability concepts. And this group will also work on the "Green" issues in construction applications.

I am looking now forward for a second mandate for the next 2 years..

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## Regulatory News

### New Working Groups

As announced in the last NewsFlash, the ETB has decided to establish an ETB Task Force for Sustainability and a Working Group for Construction.

Both working groups held a first telephone conference call in May.

The main objectives and scope of the Construction Working Group is to develop a thorough understanding of the legislative landscape in Europe and its member states. For this we have created a detailed mapping document that will be sent to the members of the group to prioritize the issues to be monitored. FEICA intends to join forces with other stakeholders and invite some other EU groups to the meeting. Furthermore, the group decided that communication to stakeholders will play an important part in improving the overall image of the sealants and adhesive industry.

An election of a Chairperson will be organized during the first "face to face" meeting.

The main objectives of the ETB Task Force on Sustainability are to play a leading role in driving the change in our respective industries needed to respond to the new challenges to build a sustainable future for society and economy; and to provide legislators and other stakeholders with the input needed to effectively drive the efforts of companies towards addressing sustainability. We must provide practical suggestions to legislators and stakeholders (such as incentives to drive sustainable consumption, research funding etc).



Dana Mosora from Dow will be the Chairman of the new task force.

The first task of this group will be to develop a common vision – definition – of the word "sustainability" and to agree on the main challenges.

### REACH Exposure Scenarios

To support suppliers (manufacturers and importers) prepare their chemical safety assessments and reports, FEICA has developed a mapping tool for our manufacturing processes and the uses of our products by customers, covering consumer, industrial and professional products. The mapping tool uses commonly agreed use descriptor codes, which have been developed by ECHA as a standardized communication method for the supply chain.

The documents, which have been aligned with Cefic and DUCC, can be accessed following the links below:

- FEICA Guidance for Use Descriptor Codes (PDF file 7 pages)
- FEICA Use Descriptors for registrants (Excel file + PDF)
- FEICA Use Descriptors for members on the Extranet only (Excel file + PDF)
- Model Letter to be send to the raw material suppliers (Word document)

In relation to this, Cefic has published a new guide describing the exposure scenarios for preparations, along with a methodology for the identification of substances that represent the dominant risks to human health and/or the environment and the drivers for risk management measures.

This document is available on the Cefic website (link to the following [address](#)) and is meant to inform industry about the methodology that has been recognised by both industry and ECHA as a valuable alternative to the methodology described in the ECHA Downstream User Guidance.

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## Market Watch

### EU Chemicals Industry Expected to Show Gradual Improvement in 2010

By Monique von Dungen, Chem Research GmbH (Source: Cefic Chemicals Trend Report May 2009)

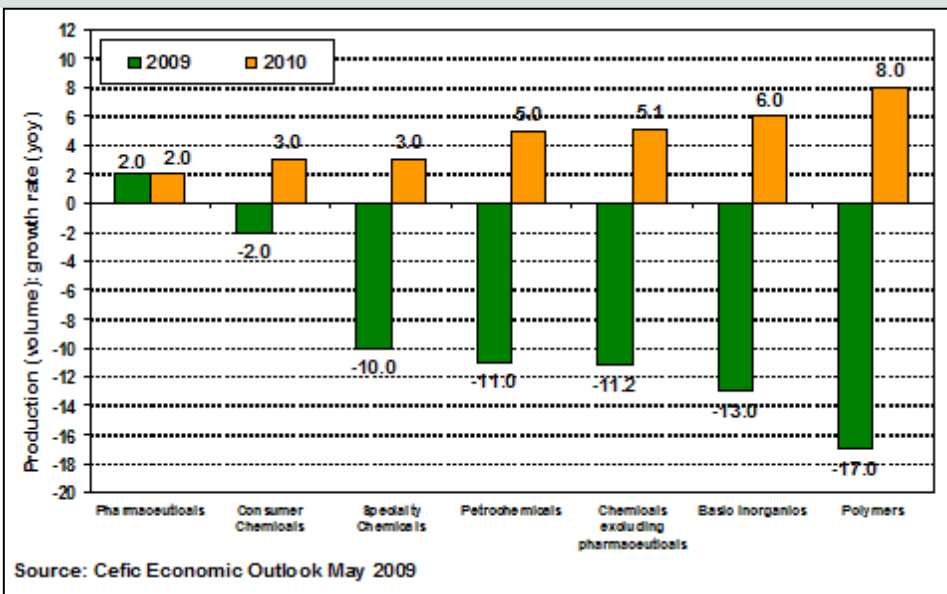
The European chemicals industry has been very severely hit by the economic crisis. The latest indicators show a considerable fall in capacity utilisation and investment. Some sectors are particularly badly affected, notably basic inorganics, petrochemicals, and polymers, where the slump in demand from their downstream markets has forced sharp reductions in output and some temporary plant closures.

However, most sectors of the European chemicals industry seem to have reached the bottom, after a steep fall, and some early signs of improvement are beginning to appear, for example the reopening of plants and production lines. Reversal of the recent phase of de-stocking at all levels of the supply chain should give a stimulus.

Looking ahead, the pattern of recovery remains uncertain, as underlying demand is still very weak and production will remain low compared with the pre-crisis level. Consumer confidence will take time to recover, not least because unemployment has yet to peak. Cefic expects a gradual revival of the European chemicals industry in 2010: Output is expected to grow by 5% for the EU chemical industry (excluding pharmaceuticals) from a very low basis. Most chemicals sub-sectors will show an upward trend and experience an improvement compared to 2009. After an initial rebound led by restocking, underlying demand is expected to stabilize in 2010 rather than show a swift upward trend. It will take some years before production returns to the pre-crisis level.

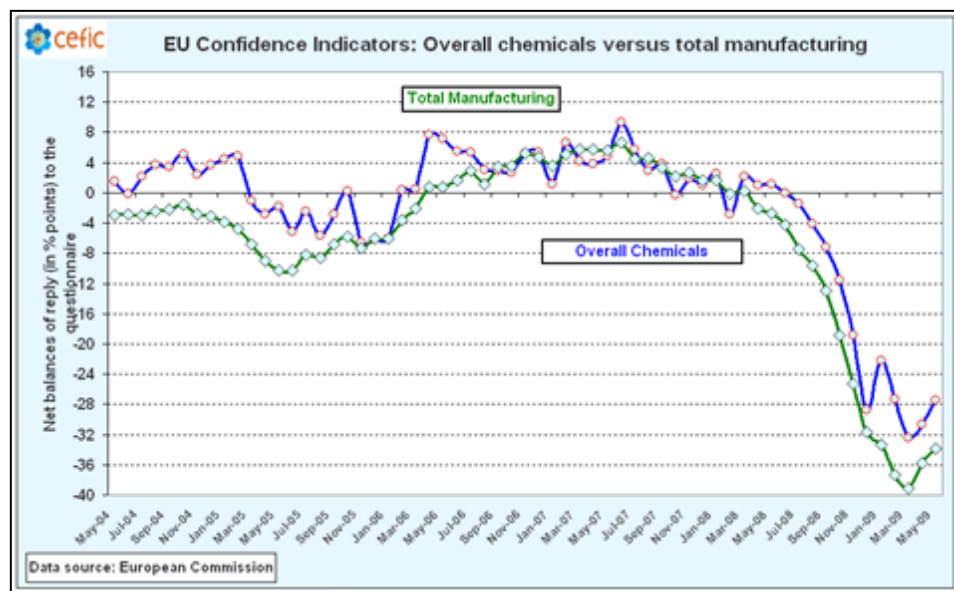
Prospects for the EU chemicals industry remain sensitive to some downside risks, two prime examples being the high levels of unemployment and public debt. Taxes in some Member States will most probably need to be raised in order to pay back the increased levels of government debt resulting from the crisis. This puts an additional financial burden on consumers. Another element is uncertainty over the final resolution of the financial crisis, which could yet have a further significant impact on the real economy.

### EU Chemicals Production: Sectoral Outlook: 2009-2010



## Chemicals Confidence Continues To Pick Up in May 2009

The chemicals confidence indicator increased in May by 3.3 points compared to April 2009. This is the third improvement since March 2008. The indicator nevertheless remained at a very low level, pointing to another negative outcome for year-on-year industrial production growth in March, after the record fall registered in December 2008. Given the current levels, it also suggests that annual production growth will remain clearly subdued in May. The rise in chemicals confidence reflects an improvement in Managers' production expectations which picked up clearly in May (8.5 points), as well as the level of stock (-4.8 points). However, the production trend observed in recent months slightly worsened (-1.6 points).



## Industry News



ASIA/PACIFIC

## Japan: Japan Introduces Voluntary Labeling Scheme for Carbon Footprint

By Yuko Asano, ChemADVISOR Inc.

In Japan, consumers will soon find a new type of label on packages of various goods in stores everywhere. This label will show a product's carbon footprint, indicating how much greenhouse gas was and will be emitted throughout the life cycle of the product. In June 2008, the Japanese government announced the development of the carbon footprint program as a part of its effort to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the country. Officials hope the program will encourage both consumers and businesses to become more aware of the environmental impact of their activities. A study group had been organized and established by the Ministry of Economy, Trade, and Industry to discuss the implementation and promotion of the carbon footprint system in Japan. On August 20, 2008, the Ministry released the first draft of the official guideline of the system. Drawing upon the British pilot program, the draft contains a basic set of standards for calculating and displaying a carbon footprint, and it also suggests a mechanism for data verification.

According to the guideline, CO<sub>2</sub>, CH<sub>4</sub>, N<sub>2</sub>O, HFCs, PFCs, and SF<sub>6</sub> are considered as greenhouse gases, and releases of such gases from human activities as well as natural sources like farming will be counted, in terms of CO<sub>2</sub>, toward a product's total carbon footprint. An amount of gas emission is calculated for each of the five phases of a product's life cycle – procurement of raw materials, manufacture, distribution, use, and disposal/recycling - by adding up all the materials and energy used for a particular process. Standardized rules for various product types and emission factors, average emission rates per 1 kg or 1 kilowatt-hour of a particular input to a product, will be developed and published in the near future. Labels will display a common symbol for carbon footprint that will be chosen from the public and approved by the government. The guideline suggests that URLs of manufacturers be on a label so that consumers can find out breakdowns of the calculation and seek additional information about the carbon footprint. For the purposes of establishing and maintaining the reliability of data and preventing businesses from providing untruthful data, some frameworks for verifying carbon footprint data through an independent third party certification and follow-up investigations are also proposed. Japan's major food producers, retailers and manufacturers of household products have been developing their own implementation of carbon footprint labeling, which allows them to assess their business processes and to show their commitment to tackling global warming. Their prototypes were put on display at the Eco-Products 2008 Exhibition held in Tokyo in December 2008. The government was planning to release the final version of the official guideline early 2009 and expected to launch the trial in 2009. The draft guideline is available in Japanese from the Ministry of Economy, Trade, and Industry at <http://www.meti.go.jp/committee/materials2/downloadfiles/g80820a03j.pdf>

### Reference

Japan to launch carbon footprint labelling scheme: <http://www.guardian.co.uk/environment/2008/aug/20/carbonfootprints.carbonemissions>

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## Malaysia: Malaysia Environmentally Hazardous Substances (EHS) Notification and Registration Scheme

By Weisin Chai, ChemADVISOR Inc.

The Malaysian Department of Environment (DOE) has implemented the Environmentally Hazardous Substances (EHS) Notification and Registration scheme to identify hazardous chemicals on the Malaysian market and hence enable proper chemical management. The EHS Notification and Registration scheme applies to manufacturers and/or importers of EHS and/or chemical mixtures or finished chemical products containing EHS constituents. Manufacturers of chemical mixtures or products using raw materials which are locally manufactured EHS or EHS imported by local suppliers are exempted from registration. Also, the companies who formulate, distribute, sell and use EHS or EHS containing mixtures or products are exempted from the scheme. Registration of the company is required before proceeding to the notification process. A company registration can be done via the DOE website. EHS are substances included in the EHS Reference List as published by the DOE, other substances classified as hazardous under the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS) or the current classification implemented in Malaysia by the Department of Occupational Safety and Health (DOSH), provided GHS is on its way to be fully implemented in Malaysia. The current hazard classification method is based on the Occupational Safety and Health (Chemicals Classifications, Labelling and Safety Data Sheet) Regulation. DOE has also published a Carcinogenic, Mutagenic and Reprotoxic (CMR) substances list. This list is the subset of the EHS Reference

list mentioned earlier. The EHS Reference List will be available in the LOLI database in the upcoming quarterly release (2009-3). The mentioned EHS substances with total annual manufacturing or importing amounts exceeding the tonnage trigger point as specified by the DOE are required to be notified, with an exception of those already registered by means of other legislations i.e., The Pesticides Act 1974, The Poison Act 1952, and Chemical Weapons Convention Act 2005. For substances that are part of a mixture or finished product, the notification is required if the accumulated annual amount of the EHS in mixtures and/or products with total EHS concentration exceed 1%, which include the restrictions of 0.1% for carcinogenic substances, substances toxic to reproduction and category 1 and 2 mutagens.

Other substances exempted from the notification include:

- Naturally-occurring materials i.e., minerals, ores, and ore concentrates as well as cement clinker
- Incidental or end-use reaction products
- Substances formed during the manufacture of an article
- Mixtures but not mixture components
- Impurities
- By-products
- Non-isolated intermediates i.e., chemical substances used to manufacture other chemical substances that are never separated from the mixture of other chemicals inside a closed system
- Contained site-limited intermediates
- Transported intermediates
- Substances manufactured solely for export
- Substances used in research and development
- Substances produced for test marketing
- Substances produced in low volume, which is less than 0.1 tons per annum

Currently, the finished consumer products containing EHS substances are also exempted from notification, but will probably be included in the scheme at a later stage of implementation. There are two types of notification in this scheme – basic notification and detailed notification. Basic notification should be done for substances listed on the EHS Reference List that have agreed to GHS hazard classification and annual tonnage of the substance above the tonnage trigger point. Also, basic notification is done for substances listed under the CMR Reference list, regardless of the annual tonnage produced or imported. Detailed notification is done for substances not listed in both EHS and CMR Reference Lists but still classified to be hazardous under the GHS classification. The data used to make the GHS assessment shall be retained for at least five years. For substances with insufficient data or any other reasons for which GHS assessment is not possible, the manufacturer or importer shall submit all available data, including manufactured or imported tonnage and report to the DOE. Both the basic and detailed notification could be done by completing the form posted on the DOE website. Detailed notification is not needed if a substance had been previously notified in detail. Though, if new data are available, changes have to be made by detail notification of the substance. The year 2009 is considered the phase-in period of the scheme. EHS manufacturers or importers can register to participate in the scheme on a voluntary basis this year, regardless of the tonnage manufactured or imported. Starting from year 2010, the notification requirement will be based on the total annual tonnage. With years 2010 and 2011, all EHS substances manufactured or imported with annual tonnage more than 0.1 metric tons and classified as “aquatic toxicity chronic 1” and/or “suspected or known to be human carcinogens, reproductive toxicants or mutagens” are mandatory for notification. With information collected through this scheme, a Malaysian Chemicals Register established by the DOE will be published online and will include the identity of substances, their uses in Malaysia, their hazard classification, and the accumulated amounts placed on the Malaysian market. In consideration of confidentiality concerns, the information on accumulated amounts of substances manufactured or imported and a particular use of a substance will only be publically available if the substance is being notified by three or more manufacturers or importers. The DOE is also launching a scheme for risk assessment of chemical substances of concern. Prioritization for review will be determined by classification as well as annual tonnage. The results of that review will determine future risk reduction strategy. Further information of the EHS Notification and Registration Scheme and a step-by-step guidance on the registration and notification process could be found from the DOE website at: <http://www.e-ehs.doe.gov.my>

#### Reference

Notification and Registration of Environmentally Hazardous Substances (EHS) available at: <http://www.e-ehs.doe.gov.my>

For more information contact ChemADVISOR Inc./ChemADVISOR Europe sprl at: +1-412-847-2000 or [info@chemadvisor.com](mailto:info@chemadvisor.com)

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This NewsFlash features information on FEICA activities, presents successful projects and identifies interesting events and publications linked to the adhesives and sealants industry. The content of the NewsFlash does not necessarily reflect the opinions of the whole adhesives and sealants industry.

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