

2011 Roundtable Session
Today's Global Chemical Regulatory Shifts: Are We Leading or Following?
(Sponsored by AIHA Risk Assessment Committee)

Title:

Today's Global Chemical Regulatory Shifts: Are We Leading, Following or Keeping Pace?

Roundtable Abstract:

The global regulatory EH&S shifts experienced over the past two years have had significant impact on business models; basic science research; technology development; risk evaluation, mitigation & communication; product stewardship; environmental, health & safety processes; and, ultimately, lifestyle choices. While the global EHS community's "view" is generally aligned directionally on the need for a greener and more sustainable future, the approaches and deliverables vary markedly. This roundtable will explore our historical EH&S origins, as well as the evolution and present day regulatory architecture developments. This will be followed by a robust exploration (by two nationally acclaimed speakers) presenting their respective views as to significant regulatory reform drivers, strategy, resources and impact. This roundtable is a must for all EH&S professionals seeking to understand the major regulatory and legislative changes globally and potential impacts on business, EH&S and overall risk decision making.

Session Personnel:

Arranger: Chris Laszcz-Davis, MS, CIH, REA

Moderator: Mary O'Reilly, PhD, CIH, CPE

Monitors: Scott G. Dotson, PhD, CIH
Rachael M. Jones

Summary of each presentation:

Highlights: A Look Back—Setting the Historical EH&S Regulatory Stage (Jayjock)

Historically and globally, risk assessment and risk management have been driven by the need to make decisions about health related hazards posed by exposure to specific and troublesome chemicals. In the U.S., It essentially first formally appeared when benzene emerged as an undeniable workplace carcinogen and the specifics of its management and control by society were being worked out. Over the intervening years, the idea and application of quantitative risk assessment and subsequent regulatory, legal or managerial control of chemicals were applied to other carcinogens and other high profile toxicants such as pesticides. This initial talk will provide a historical background on the beginnings of risk assessment and management and their translation in the global regulatory community. This review, capturing key highlights, will offer a lead into the subsequent presentation on today's approaches to chemical management risk regulation under consideration.

Highlights: Today's Global EH&S Regulatory Paradigm Shifts (Laszcz-Davis)

This quick paced presentation will review the key regulatory changes, drivers and impacts which have characterized major shifts over the past 5 years globally. The discussion will include references to scientific & political milestones, risk assessment/ management, the changing cultural,

political and manufacturing base, the European Union's REACH regulation, the growth of hazard banding, GHS, green chemistry initiatives and TSCA reform.

Open Forum--Exploration of the Key Issues and Need for Major Regulatory Reform vs a More Tempered Approach (Wilson & Brozena)

The opportunity to explore both sides of a key global initiative (chemical regulatory reform), discussing the common points of intersection, the areas of divergence, and a path forward on one stage for our membership is rare. This segment of the roundtable, facilitated by Dr. Mary O'Reilly, will employ a presidential discussion format, have each nationally acclaimed presenter share their views and respond to specific inquiries which allow a more robust discussion of the approaches, needs, companion regulations, drivers and impact. Audience engagement will be facilitated.

Closing Remarks (Boelter)

Closing comments will include observations about the common intersections as they relate to risk based decision-making, the differences, future needs and deliverables and a path forward.