



PRECIOUS METALS AND RHENIUM CONSORTIUM  
RHENIUM WORK GROUP FACE-TO-FACE MEETING

Chairperson: *Angela Alderman (Johnson Matthey)*  
Co-Chairperson: *Gary Van Riper (Climax Molybdenum)*

4 December 2009 (10:30 – 15:30 BST)  
Gold Room, Metals Conference Centre  
Rue du Duc 100, B-1150 Brussels, BELGIUM

**MINUTES**

**1. Introduction and Welcome**

- 1.1. The participants (Annex 1) were reminded on their commitment to comply with Confidentiality and Competition Law provisions.
- 1.2. Apologies were received from Jochen Schlessmann (Heraeus) and András Szép (SEKOM).
- 1.3. The Agenda was approved. The slides presented at the meeting are available in Annex 2.
- 1.4. All actions have been progressed with or will be addressed at the meeting. The minutes were approved.

**2. Re Project Progress**

- 2.1. Phase I: WCA has performed a new literature search and has not identified any relevant study. Powmet studies have been received and assessed. BASF's list of studies has been received and a confidentiality agreement has been signed with BASF to allow WCA to evaluate the studies on rhenium oxide. **Post-meeting note:** The studies have been received by WCA and will be considered in the finalisation of the Phase II report. It was indicated to WCA that they can indicate the name of the data holder in the IUCLID 5 file for transparency. **AP1**
- 2.2. Phase II: A draft phase II report was received by WCA on 2 December. The testing recommendations were discussed by the group. A summary of the tier 1 and tier 2 testing recommendations and the comments made by the Re WG at the meeting (and after) are available in Annex 3. **Post-meeting note:** These have been sent to WCA on 11 Dec 2009 to be considered in the preparation of the final Phase II report.
- 2.3. Phase III: A first batch of tests has been commissioned to AQura (Germany) in October 2009. The collection of samples started immediately after the last Re WG meeting but the last sample arrived to the laboratory in the last week of November, thereby delaying the overall start of Phase III of a bit more than one month. AQura has used this time to produce the study plans **AP2**  
The second tier of tests will be launched after the Re WG has received the tier 1 results and the pending phys-chem and (eco-)tox tests are confirmed by WCA and BIBRA in the final Phase II report.  
Animal testing and the need for testing proposals was also discussed. Although in the REACH text testing proposals are only a requisite for vertebrate animal tests listed in Annexes IX and X, the ECHA has very often recommended registrants to submit testing proposals for any *in vivo* test. **AP3**
- 2.4. Phase IV: A summary of the uses identified by the Re WG for each substance and intermediate was discussed. Although not declared by any Member, the use of rhenium in medical applications was added to the scope and it was clarified that it is a radio-activated form of rhenium that was used in medicine. An adjusted list is available in Annex 4. This shall be used by WCA when completing IUCLID 5 and preparing the CSA/CSR work for APR. As regards classification, the group discussed the possibility of having several classifications for each substance, depending on the presence of impurities. It was agreed to work with a typical concentration of 99,5% (as per the Minor Metals Traders Association (MMTA)'s quality standard) and to develop a classification proposal for the corresponding profile. For other grades, PMC Members may be invited to use a classification matrix produced by ARCHE.



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**Post-meeting note:** Secretariat contacted ARCHE and the Cu Consortium on 14 Dec 2009 requesting the conditions under which this tool can be accessed and use – tba.

- 2.5. Phase V: It was agreed at the 3<sup>rd</sup> Dec 2009 Assembly meeting to use WCA's IUCLID 5 Hosting system to centralise the PMC's IUCLID 5 files and minimise the need for e-mailing of IUCLID 5 files or circulation of several versions of each IUCLID 5 file. The Re WG supported this decision. Participants were reminded that some fields of IUCLID 5 require to be completed by each company. It was confirmed that a IUCLID 5 completion and dossier submission training will be organised, supported by a dedicated guidance document (cf. item 5.3 below).
- 2.6. The project plan was adjusted with the latest developments (Annex 5).

3. **Communication with pre-SIEFs**

- 3.1. Heraeus has replaced KGHM Ecoren as Lead Registrant for Ammonium perrhenate. This was supported by the Re WG.
- 3.2. The Ag model ID Card was supported by the Re WG. **AP4**  
The Nickel alloy scrap case was discussed in detail in the Re WG agreed to continue registration of this material as a multi-constituent substance and to move it to the PM Refiners project scope due to its complexity and earlier registration deadline (2010). **Post-meeting note:** Recent exchanges between Eurométaux and the ECHA indicate that there is a high probability of MCS dossiers to be scrutinised and to be rejected. The more secure approach is the (special) preparation one, where the individual components require separate registration. **AP5**
- 3.3. Communication with pre-SIEFs will be launched in January 2010.

4. **Budget progress (informative)**

- 4.1. The Re-specific budget for 2010 was approved at the 3 Dec 2009 Assembly meeting. It was agreed to invoice the 2010 in two parts, through two invoices (one in March and one in September 2010).
- 4.2. Close to 210 000 euros are available in the Re-specific reserve to finance Phases II and III tier 1 and part of Phase III tier 2.

5. **AOB, next meeting, and closing remarks**

- 5.1. 2010 Re WG meetings: 23 April, 2 June (teleconference starting at 3 pm CET), 23 September, and 3 December. **AP6**
- 5.2. The two 2010 Assembly meetings of the PMC will take place on 18 June and 2 December.
- 5.3. A first registration submission training session will be organised on the 22 April, back-to-back with the next Re WG meeting.

**Annexes:**

1. Agenda and list of participants
2. Slides presented at the meeting
3. Re project testing programme; tiers 1 and 2 including Re WG comments
4. List of uses identified for each Re substance and intermediates
5. Adjusted Re project plan



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**Action points:**

**Table 1.** List of action points (AP) agreed at the 4 Dec Re WG meeting

|           | <b>What?</b>                                                                                                                                                                                         | <b>Who?</b>   | <b>When?</b> |
|-----------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|--------------|
| <b>1.</b> | To confirm with Powmet (and BASF in due course) whether these companies agree to have their names mentioned as data holders in the PMC's dossiers.                                                   | Secretariat   | 21 Dec 2009  |
| <b>2.</b> | To revert to the PMC with the adjusted timeline of tier 1 confirmed by AQura (and confirm whether first draft report is likely to be finalised in March 2010 – include original laboratory reports). | WCA           | Jan 2010     |
| <b>3.</b> | To obtain a confirmation from the UK HSE about their interpretation on animal testing and testing proposals requirements                                                                             | WCA           | 21 Dec 2010  |
|           | To consult Member State representatives to capture their views on animal testing.                                                                                                                    | Re WG         | Jan 2010     |
| <b>4.</b> | To prepare one ID Card per substance and intermediate in scope.                                                                                                                                      | Secretariat   | Jan 2010     |
|           | To revise ID Cards before they are used to address sameness and Lead Registrant election with each pre-SIEF.                                                                                         | WCA and Re WG | Jan 2010     |
| <b>5.</b> | To organise an <i>ad hoc</i> discussion on the Nickel alloy scrap case with the concerned companies after the next PMC Refiners WG meeting.                                                          | Secretariat   | Week 20 Jan  |
| <b>6.</b> | To block 2010 Re WG meeting dates with WCA and BIBRA.                                                                                                                                                | Secretariat   | 21 Dec 2010  |