



Chairperson: *Angela Alderman (Johnson Matthey)*

Thursday, 4 December 2008 (9:30 - 11:00 CET)
Metals Conference Centre - Aluminium Room
Rue du Duc 100 - 1150 Brussels (Belgium)

MINUTES

Action points are highlighted in underlined green

1. Introduction and welcome to Consortium.

- 1.1. **Confidentiality and Competition Law.** The attendees were reminded on their commitment to comply with Confidentiality and Competition Law provisions. A list of Do's & Don'ts is available on request to the Secretariat.
- 1.2. **Tour de table and apologies.** The list of participants is available in Annex 1. Five Members out of seven are represented at the meeting.
- 1.3. **Revision of pending action points and approval of minutes of last meeting (23 Sep 2008):** All action points but one (see below), have been actioned.
 - 1.3.1. **Election of a Co-Chairperson.** Due to the absence of certain representatives of the Re WG, it was agreed to postpone the election of a Co-Chairperson to the next meeting.
- 1.4. **Approval of the Agenda.** The Agenda (Annex 1) was approved.

2. Rhenium inventory.

- 2.1. **Adjustment of Rhenium inventory.** The Rhenium inventory (Annex 2) covers four simple substances, three simple intermediates, and one complex rhenium containing-material (Ni alloy scrap). Only Ammonium Perrhenate (APR) exceeds the 1-10 tonnes/year tonnage band.
 - The seven last columns in Annex 2 will be completed as soon as the REACH IT allows downloading the .xml files of each relevant Pre-SIEF. Consortium rapporteurs will be identified by the Trustee to collect these .xml files.
 - The proposed SIEF Formation Facilitator (SFF) column will be completed as per the .xml file. The proposed Lead Registrant column will be completed with volunteer companies from the Re Sub-Assembly of the PM & Re Consortium and will then be presented to the Pre-SIEF.
 - In light of the above, the members of the Re Sub-Assembly will be invited to volunteer to act as Lead Registrant for one of the substances listed in Annex 2.¹

3. Rhenium pre-registration experiences.

- 3.1. **"Simple" cases.** Pre-registration was quite straightforward for simple rhenium substances and intermediates. No major issues were reported by attendees.
- 3.2. **"Complex" case - Ni alloy scrap:**
 - 3.2.1. **Pre-registering as UVCB without EINECS number.** According to the attendees, this route was not possible to achieve.
 - 3.2.2. **Pre-registering as multi-constituent substance.** This route was followed by some of the interested pre-registrants.
 - 3.2.3. **Pre-registering as components of a preparation.** This route was followed by some of the interested pre-registrants.
- 3.3. **Rhenium Pre-SIEFs:**
 - 3.3.1. **Identification of potential SIEF colleagues: determine priority**

¹ **Post-meeting note:** Climax Molybdenum has volunteered to act as Lead Registrant for Sodium Rhenate.



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companies. At the time of the meeting, the Pre-SIEF were no longer accessible and it was hence impossible to identify potential SIEF colleagues and determine priority companies that should be contacted by the Consortium for cooperation. This action is therefore postponed till the next meeting. Once the Trustee has received the .xml files from the relevant Consortium rapporteurs, priority companies will be identified and contacted by the SIEF Formation Facilitator.

- 3.3.2. Key items for discussion with priority companies.** Key items for discussion are: (a) interest in membership/alternative cooperation mechanisms (letter of access, licence to use, etc.) and (b) interest in data-sharing (unlikely to be significant for usually data-poor rhenium materials). The contact with priority companies shall encompass these two items.

4. Update on Rhenium project/work programme (Annex 3).

- 4.1. Feed-back from Members on data request.** Members contributed with everything which was readily available to them in-house. For certainty, attendees are invited to check once again if any other information exists and should be transferred to the consultants. Data search, request and collection will be iterative until the Registration Dossier is completed. Z. Hugonin reminded attendees on the need to use the proposed templates and to respect data request recommendations (e.g.: study titling, colour code, etc.) when fulfilling data requests, and to inform her in the event the company does not have the requested data so that the request is not re-sent or left pending needlessly.
- 4.2. Data gaps identified so far.** Many data gaps exist, as shown in WCA's data matrices. Most existing information relates to Rhenium (on its own or in alloys) and to APR. C. Braibant will request WCA to provide her with a list of all found references on rhenium and related substances². Next data requests will relate to uses, exposure and emissions information. G. Van Riper will send C. Braibant a copy of the questionnaire used at the Molybdenum Consortium to collect such information.³ TAP will be invited to evaluate this questionnaire (and compare it with Eurométaux' multi-metallic questionnaire) to see if/how it could be used for all the Consortium projects.
- 4.3. Potential testing requirements.** Due to the low tonnage of the majority of rhenium substances and intermediates, low information requirements apply. Moreover, due to the inorganic nature of some of these substances and intermediates, some information requirements do not apply at all. Should data gaps be filled, APR could act as a source substance from which read-across can be established. Moreover, information requirements may also be waived according to Article 12(1)b of REACH: the technical dossier shall include as a minimum, the information on physicochemical properties specified in Annex VII, section 7 for phase-in substances manufactured or imported in quantities of 1 tonne or more per year per manufacturer or importer which do not meet either of the criteria

² **Post-meeting note:** List attached as Annex 4.

³ **Post-meeting note:** Questionnaire received on 11 December 2008, to be evaluated by Scientific Manager and TAP Chairpersons by 5 February 2009.



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specified in Annex III. Annex III criteria are:

- substances that are likely to meet the criteria for category 1 or 2 classification for carcinogenicity, mutagenicity or reproductive toxicity; or that are persistent, bio-accumulative and toxic (PBT); or that are very persistent and very bio-accumulative (vPvB); or
- substances with dispersive or diffuse use(s) particularly where such substances are used in consumer preparations or incorporated into consumer articles; and
- where these are likely to meet the classification criteria for any human health or environmental effects endpoints under Directive 67/548/EEC.

At the next meeting, it shall be determined which ones of the substances in scope of the Rhenium project are unlikely to meet either of the criteria specified above. This will then be compared with consultants' predictions. Example of testing costs are provided in Annex 5.

- 4.4. **Identification of potential source substances and key sample providers.** As indicated above, APR could act as a source substance from which read-across can be established. Further grouping possibilities will be explored in Phase II of the Rhenium project.⁴ Several sample providers may exist per substance, in the event different forms of the same substance is placed on the market. These will be identified when specific testing requirements are identified as a result of Phase II outcomes.

5. **Any other business, 2009 meetings schedule and closing remarks (All).**

- Attendees requested a management plan for the Rhenium project to be prepared by the Consortium secretariat. It will be presented at the next meeting.
- The proposed 2009 meetings schedule is:
 - Before 15 March 2009 (teleconference, exact date to be determined).
 - London, 17 April 2009 (face-to-face meeting - host to be confirmed)
 - Brussels, 15 June 2009 (face-to-face meeting)
 - Brussels, 22 September 2009 (to be confirmed)
 - Brussels, 4 December 2009 (to be confirmed)

Annexes:

1. List of participants and agenda
2. Rhenium indicative list
3. Slides on Rhenium project Phase I outcomes
4. List of references on Rhenium, identified in Phase I of the Re project
5. Example of testing costs

⁴ As per the *Guidance on information requirements - Chapter R.6: (Q)SAR and grouping of chemicals* (May 2008), the following parameters can be considered when building categories or groups of comparable substances under REACH:

- Ion oxidation state, molecular weight and crystalline (electronic sub-)structure/structural orientation (possibility of using molecular similarity indexes);
- Physical form and particle size/dustiness;
- Purity/impurity, composition and presence of counter-ions or typical chemical groups/species;
- Water solubility, bio-accessibility and bio-availability;
- (Bio-)Chemical reactivity, common precursors and/or breakdown/degradation products;
- Partition coefficient (e.g.: Kow), vapour pressure and viscosity (typically applicable to certain organic forms of PGM).

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