



# Occupational Monitoring Campaign – Kick-off meeting

*Minutes, Brussels, 18 February 2016 (10:30-12:40)*

**Participants:** Michael Thiel (BASF – *via phone*), Michal Huber (C Hafner), Herbert Fuchs and Sven Schmitt (Heraeus – *via phone*), Angela Alderman and Gus Ruggiero (Johnson Matthey – *via phone*), Jan Kegels (Umicore), Carole Wilson (Vale – *via phone*), Daniel Vetter (EBRC), Jutta Schade (EBRC - *via phone*), Maxime Eliat (PMC – *via phone*), Klaus Rothenbacher and Jelle Mertens (PMC)  
**Apologies:** Giovanni Prelazzi (Chimet)

**Slides of the meeting:** cfr Annex I

## **Welcome and tour-de-table by Jelle.**

Draft agenda approved by participants (cfr. Annex II)

## **Introduction by Daniel Vetter (cfr. attached slides).**

- It was highlighted that there are a lot of data available for Pt&compounds (IPA Database & publication), some for Pd&compounds, but little to no data for the other substances covered by PMC.
- It was clarified that monitoring data are preferentially targeted to those substances requiring exposure scenarios (‘ES’) under REACH (ESs not required for e.g. Ir group substances), and that some relevant impurities like Os are not in current PMC REACH scope. It will be decided later what ‘other’ substances (besides those requiring ES) will be included in the campaign - the sampling will be done and it is a minor cost to perform additional elemental analysis.
- It was stressed that data will finally be merged and aggregated statistics will be presented, so that company ID will remain confidential (cfr. confidentiality agreement EBRC – PMC).
- Tasks that might be covered include ‘maintenance’ activities (covered under REACH), but exclude ‘exceptional/accidental’ activities (out of REACH scope).

## **Scoping and proposed workflow by Daniel Vetter (cfr. attached slides).**

- The different scope of occupational monitoring under REACH (task specific or workplace specific to reduce the number of ESs) vs OHS (mostly full shift exposure, consisting of multiple tasks, not accepted under REACH) was clarified. It was proposed to fill during current campaign data gaps for REACH purposes. OHS data can be considered and reviewed on a selective basis.
- The aim is to populate the PGM monitoring dataset with existing monitoring data (available within companies, provided to and reviewed by EBRC) and newly gathered monitoring data where needed.



- It was suggested to select metals/elements based on available monitoring data within companies and the results of the site visits ('SV'). The decision if and where to do personal vs static monitoring will be taken after the SV and generating a first monitoring database (MDB).
- If agreed, the proposal is to do dermal monitoring by skin wiping (cfr. experience from other metals/consortia). However, dermal exposure assessment can be modelled/predicted sufficiently for occupational exposure assessment.
- The occupational monitoring data will focus on the 'inhalable fraction' as required under REACH.
- Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) will be considered and reported.
- Site visits will be focused on those sites and workplaces ('WP') where substances of concern are handled (either or not in parallel), and which volunteer for a SV and potential monitoring afterwards. Preference is given to sites covering multiple processes/WPs and substances.
- Monitoring can be performed either internally or by an external sampling institute. A sampling institute will be selected later, but this decision needs to be taken ASAP to keep the proposed timing (cfr. timing in attached presentation). There is no need for the external sampling institute to be present during the SV: they can sample according to the recommendations following the SV.
- The sampling duration per site can potentially take a few days depending on data needs and number of WP to cover. Practicalities will be discussed and agreed before with site managers.
- The external sampling institute will advise on the analysis of the samples. The analysis requirements (number of elements covered, detection limits) will depend on information gathered from the companies and the dimensions of derived DNELs (mg/m<sup>3</sup> vs ng/m<sup>3</sup>). The companies/PMC should provide guidance if appropriate.
- **During the call, Umicore, C Hafner, Johnson Matthey, Heraeus and Vale indicated they potentially agree with a SV** (*Umicore needs to further check internally. Heraeus confirmed after the meeting they volunteer for a SV. CHIMET indicated before the meeting via email their potential engagement as well.*).
- **An email will be circulated by EBRC/PMC with**
  - key questions for substance selection
  - key questions for SV selection
  - written approval for SV by EBRC
- It was agreed to identify datagaps ASAP to allow more focussed internal monitoring (task/WP specific or substance specific).
- The IPA catalogue of tasks for PGMs will be provided to EBRC (*done at day of the meeting*).

## Conclusions & Anticipated timing

- The provisional timing of this project is mentioned in the attached presentation slides. It was stressed that we should aim to meet the deadlines to ensure inclusion of the monitoring data in the appropriate ESs.



## Annex I: SLIDES OF THE MEETING



## Annex II: DRAFT AGENDA

1. Welcome + Tour-de-Table (JM) (10.30-10.35)
2. Approval draft agenda (JM) (10.35-10.40)
3. Introduction (DV) (10.40-11.10)
  - a. Background to PM monitoring campaign
  - b. Summary of available information
  - c. Occupational monitoring data under REACH
  - d. Use and presentation of monitoring data under REACH
4. Scoping and proposed workflow (DV): (11.10-12.45)
  - a. Scope of the occupational monitoring campaign (REACH vs OHS)
  - b. Metals in scope of this campaign
  - c. Type of monitoring to be conducted
  - d. Proposed workflow of a monitoring campaign
  - e. Identification of sites/volunteers for site visits
  - f. Identification of sampling institute
- Conclusions & Anticipated timing (JM) (12.45-13.00)