

## Membership

i2a currently has 43 members worldwide: 39 full members and 4 associate members. Although we already represent more than 80% of the antimony industry, our aim for 2014 is to reach out to all the miners, the producers, traders and even users of antimony and antimony compounds in order to deal with international EHS issues together. As i2a is a non-profit organisation, the more companies join, the less everybody pays and the better i2a can defend the EHS interests of the antimony industry worldwide.

## REACH like systems to be monitored

Eight i2a antimony substances have been registered under EU-REACH by the respective Lead Registrants. On a yearly basis, i2a checks if there is a need to update the dossiers to remain REACH compliant. Assessments of all i2a antimony substances show they can safely be produced and used by the workers and the downstream users if the described risk management measures (like masks, gloves and/or exhaust ventilation) are taken into account. None of our antimony substances have classifications that trigger nomination as Substance of Very High Concern, restriction or authorisation under EU-REACH. We don't have intermediates or UVCB's (substance of unknown or variable composition) that require quite some resources to register under EU-REACH.

However, in many areas worldwide, EU REACH-like systems are appearing that affect our members' business (eg Korea, China, Japan, Turkey...). i2a also focuses on these REACH-like systems and offers our help and coordination to the i2a members. The Korean REACH system that comes into force on January 2015 is high on our agenda.

Companies intending to REACH register (either in Europe or beyond) one of the i2a substances are hereby invited to contact us as soon as possible to discuss the options of obtaining legitimate access to the relevant REACH registration data.

## Press release: industry urges regulators to give full recognition to the OSOR principle

i2a is faced with a free rider who REACH registered a substance (antimony trioxide, 'ATO', CAS 1309-64-4) by opting out from the existing REACH dossier of ATO. The company opened a second joint submission and copied the available data on the internet. For a substance like ATO that went through a Risk Assessment under the ESR 793/93 underwent an OECD screening and has all data disseminated on the ECHA website since 2010, this is not a difficult task. Many discussions with ECHA, the EU Commission, and the Italian REACH enforcer have taught us that this is considered by authorities an illegal use of opt-out and an illegal use of multiple joint submissions. Our press release on this issue can be found on our [website \(publications page\)](#). i2a is firmly committed to the principle and practice of submitting and maintaining high quality registration files; to ensuring that investment in the SIEF process, and especially compliance with the OSOR principle, is respected by all current and potential REACH registrants; and that the enforcement systems weeds out free riders in an effective and consistent manner across the EU Member States.

## ATO and ECOLABELS

Based on scientific evidence, i2a believes ATO should be derogated from the 'List of Restricted Substances' for the EU Ecolabel. Basis for this is the fragment in the Ecolabel legal text saying that derogations can be assigned to substances or mixtures of which the properties change upon processing (e.g. become no longer bioavailable or undergo chemical modification) so that the identified hazards no longer apply. i2a is actively participating to the discussions for the revision of most relevant Ecolabels ('Textiles', 'Bed mattresses', 'Television and Computer Displays' and 'Personal and Notebook Computers') to apply for this derogation for ATO as flame retardant synergist in these product groups. Revised legal texts for these Ecolabels are expected to be published in 2014-2016.

## Focus on downstream user communication in 2014

After having spent a big part of i2a's activities during the last 13 years on successfully gathering and generating scientific data, our focus in 2014 will be on communicating the results of that scientific work to our downstream users. Letters will be sent by our members to their downstream users and the downstream user associations will be contacted by the i2a secretariat. Conferences will be attended by i2a and/or its members to spread our main messages about antimony and antimony compounds:

- Many years of industrial experience and scientific facts demonstrate safety and efficacy
- There are no scientific reasons to avoid or replace antimony and antimony compounds. They are safe to use in all identified downstream uses.
- The safety of antimony and compounds has been assessed and confirmed by authorities worldwide, it is not just a claim that industry is making.

i2a members can easily be recognised by the i2a label representing the company's corporate responsibility and constant investment in the environment and human health, safety and regulatory compliance on a global scale.



## Upcoming events (for members only)

- 5 Nov 2014: i2a Board of Directors (BOD) meeting in Brussels  
6 Nov 2014: i2a General Assembly (GA) meeting in Brussels

## i2a contacts

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