

**REACH-ing Industry –  
The New European Chemical Legislation  
28 November 2008, Malta**

**ECHA: accomplishments  
and way ahead**

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# ECHA - Overview



# Mission of ECHA



- Manage all REACH tasks by carrying out or co-ordinating the necessary activities, in order to ensure a consistent implementation at Community level
- Provide Member States and the European institutions with the best possible scientific advice on questions related to the safety and the socio-economic aspects of the use of chemicals
- Ensure a credible decision-making process, using the best possible scientific, technical and regulatory capacities and by working independently in an efficient, transparent and consistent manner

# Vision of ECHA



- To become the internationally recognised Agency on any question related to the safety of industrial chemicals and a source for reliable and high quality information on chemicals
- To be a trustworthy, efficient and transparent regulatory authority
- To attract highly motivated and talented staff
- To be perceived by Industry as a reliable partner providing advice and assistance

# Core values of ECHA



## Efficient in operations, transparent in procedures!

- Transparency, impartiality, accountability and efficiency
- Management of REACH operations in a secure, professional and science-based manner
- ECHA attaches to its independence from all external interests while at the same time closely cooperates with all stakeholders, the European institutions and Member States
- The Agency pursues a strong policy of equal opportunities and environmental friendliness

# What is ECHA?



## **ECHA comprises (Art. 76)**

–The **Management Board** (under the Chair):

- 1 per MS, 2 by EP, 3 by COM, 3 by interested parties (IND, NGO, Trade Unions)

–The **Committees** (under Chairs):

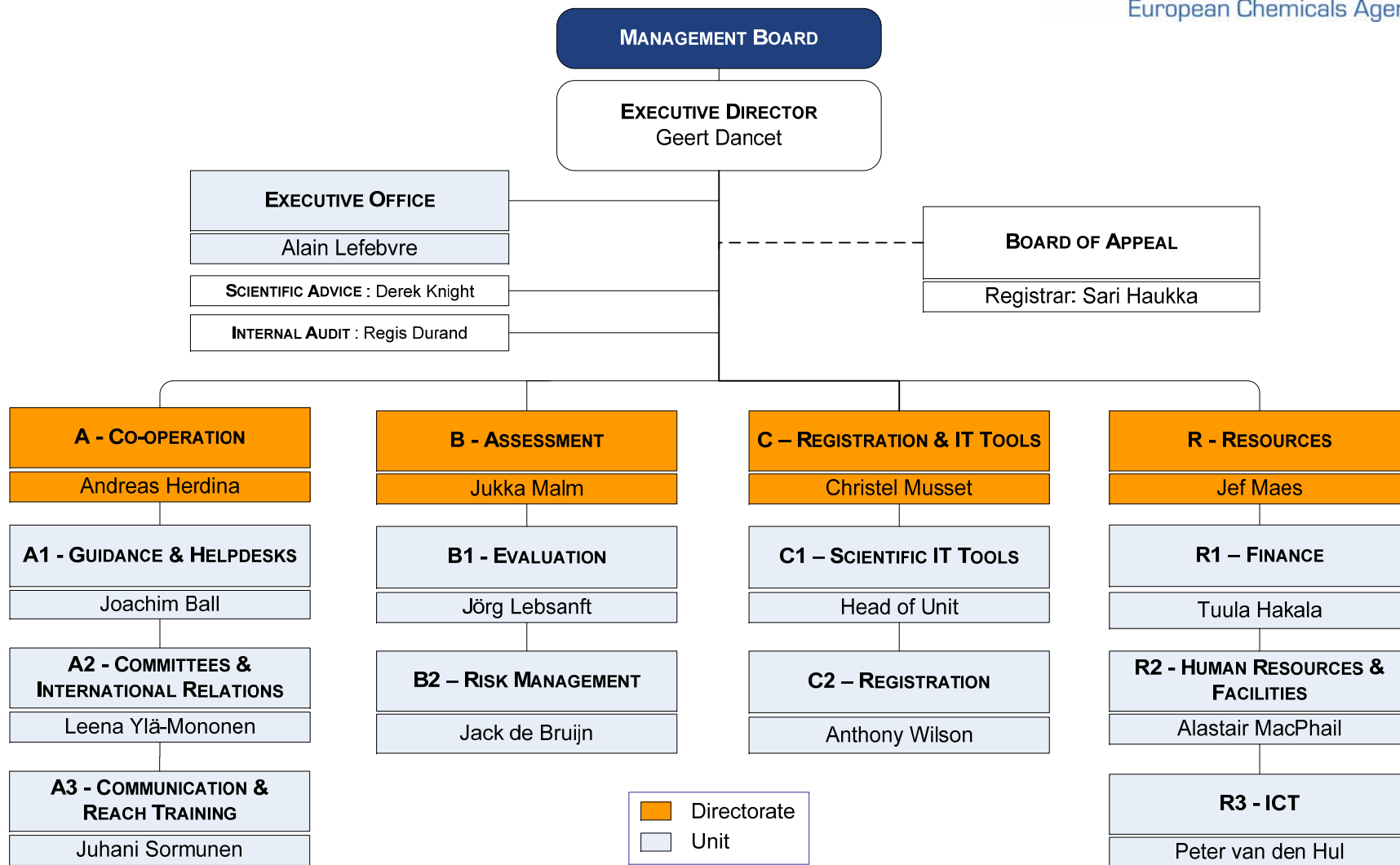
- The Committee for Risk Assessment (**RAC**)
- The Committee for Socio-economic Analysis (**SEAC**)
- The Member State Committee (**MSC**)
- The **Forum** for Exchange of Info on Enforcement

–The **Secretariat** (under the Executive Director, **ED**)

–The Board of Appeal (**BOA**, under the Chair):

- independent from the Secretariat

# ECHA organisation – November 2008



## Achievements so far (1/3)

1. **ECHA helpdesk** operational since 18 months
2. **Helpdesk network** helps harmonising advice
3. **Guidance** is on ECHA's website – **a one stop shop**
4. **Committees & Forum** – fully operational
5. **Chemical “*acquis*”** taken over from COM
6. **Recruiting** (2 > 220 in 18 months) and **training** staff

## Achievements so far (2/3)

- 7. Procedures (SOP) for key processes in use**
- 8. IT tools (IUCLID 5, REACH-IT) operational**
- 9. Stakeholder partner organisations identified/invited as observers**
  - First Stakeholders Day organised on October 10<sup>th</sup>, 2008
- 10. National trainers trained (3 training sessions)**
- 11. First “candidate list” published on 28 October 2008**

# Achievements so far (3/3)

## 12. Pre-registrations:

5½ months into the pre-registration period:

- more than 25,000 Companies from all 27 MS + EAA
- number of sign-ups is increasing
  - 800 per week in September
  - 1500 per week in October
  - 3500 per week in first weeks of November
- more than 1,200,000 pre-registrations received
  - more than 50,000 different substances pre-registered
- intermediate list (almost 50,000 substances) published on October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2008 and updated on November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2008
- Rapid Response Service offered to pre-registrants from 17/11 till 1/12
- Back-up pre-registration procedure ready for roll-out if needed

**13. Registrations (145), PPORD notifications (431), inquiries (554) received and managed by November 17<sup>th</sup>, 2008**

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## 1. Master the technical and scientific tasks of REACH and Classification, Labelling and Packaging (CLP):

- Implement and operate efficient, transparent and secure procedures for all REACH and CLP processes and develop routine
- Respect the tight deadlines from REACH
- Ensure the timely availability and development of scientific IT-tools and promote their international acceptance
- Ensure the availability of adequate and well trained staff
- Deliver solid opinions from RAC and MSC on harmonised C&L and testing proposals

## 2. Prepare for the first registration deadline

- 20 000 registration dossiers expected to arrive in 2010
- Deadlines for dealing with testing proposals in registration dossiers are very challenging (1 December 2012)
- Well established procedures and trained staff will be crucial
- CSA/CSR tool to be rolled out by the end of 2009

## 3. Take next steps on authorisation and restriction processes

- Make a credible start on the authorisation procedure and recommend the first SVHC substances for authorisation to COM
- Carry out a regular update of SVHC candidate list
- Prepare for first opinions after the entry into force of restriction process

## 4. Build evaluation capacities

- Dossier evaluation one of the most demanding tasks for ECHA
- Regulatory resources need to be built up and workflows established for first registration deadline (2010) for complex high volume substances
- To gain experience ECHA will perform as many compliance checks for non phase-in substances as possible before 2010

## 5. Build trust with its partners and become key source of information

- ECHA depends on harmonious networks with authorities, industry and other stakeholders
- Core values are Independence, Transparency and the delivery of scientifically and technically sound opinions and decisions
- Make high quality and non confidential information on chemicals easily available to support the aims of REACH

# ECHA website

To get any further information about REACH and ECHA and be always up-to-date

<http://echa.europa.eu>



The banner features a light blue background with a dark blue wave at the bottom. On the left, there are three inset images: a hand holding a test tube, a close-up of a test tube rack, and a beaker with colored liquids. The ECHA logo is in the top right. A list of national agency names in various languages is on the right, and the text 'European Chemicals Agency' is at the bottom right. A small copyright notice is at the very bottom.

**ECHA**

- CV** Evropská agentura pro chemické látky
- DA** Det Europæiske Kemikalieagentur
- DE** Europäisches Amt für chemische Stoffe
- ET** Euroopa Kemikaalide Amet
- EL** Ευρωπαϊκός Οργανισμός Χημικών Προϊόντων
- EN** European Chemicals Agency
- ES** Agencia Europea de Sustancias y Preparados Químicos
- FI** Euroopan kemikaalivirasto
- FR** Agence européenne des produits chimiques
- IT** Agenzia europea delle sostanze chimiche
- LT** Europos cheminių medžiagų agentūra
- LV** Eiropas Ķīmisko vielu aģentūra
- HU** Vegyi Anyagokkal Foglalkozó Európai Ügynökség
- MT** L-Aġenzja Ewropea tal-Kimika
- NL** Europees Chemicaliënagentschap
- PL** Europejska Agencja ds. Substancji Chemicznych
- PT** Agência Europeia dos Produtos Químicos
- SK** Európeka agentúra pre chemické látky
- SL** Evropska agencija za kemikalije

European Chemicals Agency

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# ECHA's tools for stakeholders



## **ECHA made available different tools for different objectives:**

- Sources of information: whose aim is to keep stakeholders up-to-date on the latest about ECHA's work and to understand REACH and its implementation process
- Action tools: developed to help stakeholders to comply with REACH provisions and to participate to the work of the Agency

# Sources of information (1/2)



## **To receive the latest information about ECHA's work:**

- Access to ECHA web site sections “News” and “Press and Events”, to know about ECHA’s activities as well as “News Alerts” and “Newsletter” services available previous subscription
- Download Brochures, Fact sheets and strategic papers issued by the Agency, available on the web site section “Publications”
- Consult the site section “ECHA Chem” to find useful information about chemicals as reported in registration dossiers submitted to the Agency
- Use the possibility to request ECHA’s experts to participate as speakers to conferences and the possibility to visit ECHA’s premises

# Sources of information (2/2)

## To understand REACH and its implementation process (through web site section “REACH”):

- Consult the REACH Regulation, REACH Guidance documents and the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) section
- Find quickly what you need to do under REACH by using “The Navigator”
- Keep up-to-date to the state of the play of current pre-registration procedure (web site section “Pre-registration” & REACH-IT)
- Access and use training tools available
- Subscribe to News Alerts and contact ECHA’s Helpdesk in case of problems.

# ECHA's action tools

## **To comply with REACH provisions:**

- Access and use the IT tools available for the preparation of registration dossiers and their submission

## **To participate to the work of the Agency:**

- Register as an expert to participate to the drafting of Technical Guidance documents
- Express interest to participate as stakeholder observer to the networks of Committees and Forum
- Participate to the public consultations (test proposition, C&L harmonisation, “candidate” and “authorisation” lists)
- Participate to the Stakeholders' Day (next on May 27<sup>th</sup>, 2009)

**Thank you for your attention**