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July Highlights

European Commission proposal on EU Mercury Regulation

Following the signature of the Minamata Convention, a new legislation on mercury storage applicable similarly in all 28 European Member States should be voted on at EU-level. The Commission issued a legislative proposal that is discussed now in the European Parliament and the Council. In the European Parliament the discussion of the amendments is expected after the summer recess in September and the vote in the EP-Committee on 13 October 2016. In the Council, the Working Party on the Environment is expected to continue its examination of the compromise text, with a view to preparing the Council's internal position on the proposal. The adoption of the final text is expected around the second quarter of 2017.

EU-OSHA webinar on Healthy Workplaces at all ages campaign

At EuSalt last General Assembly, Brenda O'Brien from EU-OSHA presented their new campaign 'Healthy Workplaces for All Ages'. It is a priority for European policy-makers to ensure elder people can work safely. Until the end of 2017, EU-OSHA objectives are:

1. Promoting sustainable work and healthy ageing from the start of the working life
2. Preventing health problems throughout the working life
3. Providing ways for employers and workers to manage occupational safety and health in the context of an ageing workforce

4. Encouraging the exchange of information and good practice



EuSalt members have worked together on safety issues and decided to be an official member of this campaign. This is an opportunity to showcase the salt sector knowledge but also learn from other sectors' experience and companies' initiatives. Following the success of the first EuSalt Safety Award Edition, EuSalt will organise next year again a new edition of the Safety competition with its members during the General Assembly organised in Brussels.

Twiplomacy – 1st edition organised in Brussels

EuSalt participated to the Burson-Marsteller's Twiplomacy event launching their studies looking at how Heads of State and Government, Foreign Ministers and International Organisations use social media channels. Twitter is the most popular social media tool used by governments as it helps



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them engage and connect with citizens. While Facebook is helping building communities, SnapChat is growing and definitely the best tool to approach a younger audience. The DG COMM – responsible of the European Commission communication – explained their objective was to create an interaction with

European citizens. They are trying to encourage people to have their say and participate to European policy-making.

Twiplomacy events should be organized regularly in Brussels on different aspects of social media communication.

Climate & Environment

EuSalt Circular Economy Expert Group – test phase done!



Three EuSalt member companies have tested a questionnaire to measure the Circular Economy model as laid down by the European Commission. EuSalt believes it can provide guidance and tools to the salt industry for how to move towards excellence in the context of the Commission action plan. EuSalt will devote one session to the Circular Economy political agenda at the next General Assembly in Brussels from 26 to 28 June 2016.

European Commission publishes Raw Material Scoreboard

The European Commission has published the [first Raw Material Scoreboard](#) prepared by the Commission's Joint Research Centre (JRC) in cooperation with the stakeholders operating in the raw materials sector.

It gives an overview of the current challenges and opportunities in the raw materials sector

in the EU (primary and secondary raw materials). It provides also an analysis of current progress towards achieving a Circular Economy in the EU and could feed into the Commission's work for the implementation of its Action Plan on the Circular Economy.

According to the Scoreboard, the circular use of raw materials in the economy is relatively low, mostly due to the technical limitations of [w1]recycling processes and because demand for raw materials to build infrastructure is higher than what can be currently met through recycling. Yet, the report finds that the EU still leads in this aspect globally.

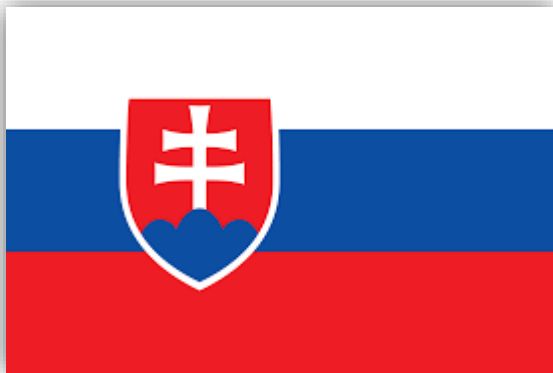


More news

EU Policy News

Slovak Presidency from 1st July to 31st December 2016

[Slovakia](#) is holding the 6-month Presidency of the EU Council. Its priorities are the Energy Union measures (including the climate policies), and the Circular Economy Package in particular on the waste parts of the European Commission proposal. The Slovak presidency will also have to lead the negotiations following the British referendum on their European membership.



EU Transparency Register becomes mandatory

The European Commission decided that as of 1st January 2017 registration in the European and Parliament Transparency Register will become mandatory. It means that under the new rules, stakeholders without a transparency register number will no longer be invited to attend Commission expert and Working Group meetings and will be removed from the Expert Register. EuSalt has been registered since 2011 under the number 03451096957-77.

European Commission developing criteria to assess hazardous property 14 in waste

Following [a scientific report](#) looking at the different methodologies to assess the waste hazardous

property n°14 (from the Annex III of the [Waste Framework Directive](#)), the European Commission is now working to see which one is the most suitable and harmonise it at European level. For now, indeed, HP 14 is tested differently across the EU. The challenge for EuSalt is that salt (NaCl) could be categorised as hazardous simply because it is found in waste. It creates an inconsistency for companies handling or discarding the waste coming out of the production facilities. The European Commission is expected to present a draft measure for the 'adaptation to scientific and technical progress and implementation of Directive 2008/98/EC on waste' to the "comitology" Committee (composed of Member State experts) for a vote before the end of the second quarter of 2016.

Proposal on the Regulation on maximum level for certain contaminants in foodstuffs



The European Commission is drafting a proposal amending [Regulation 1881/2006](#) setting maximum levels for certain contaminants in foodstuffs. A new annex to the Regulation would list food grade salt with a maximum limit for salt of 0,10 mg/kg, similar to the levels in the in the Codex Alimentarius standard on food grade salt. An [Expert Committee](#) meeting will take place in September with policy-makers and stakeholders to discuss the draft proposal.

Labelling exemption in processed foods' ingredients list

[The European Regulation on Food Information](#) requires that all ingredients including as compound ingredients are listed in processed food. A compound ingredient name may be included in the list of ingredients, under its own designation if immediately followed by a list of its ingredients. Iodized salt is a compound ingredient, which means that when used in a processed food, the label can indicate "iodized salt" provided that the ingredients list informs about the different substances of iodized salt.

Following the request from several stakeholders (FDE, Culnaria Europe, EuSalt...) to exempt iodine as a compound ingredient from the ingredients list, the European Commission Working Group on Food Information to Consumers discussed about allowing this potential exemption.

12 Member States would like to amend the Regulation in that direction, and this only for iodised salt and not for other additives. In the European Commission DG SANTE calls on the other delegations to express themselves, pointing out that the overall objective is public health and hence facilitate the use of iodised salt in processed foods.

Regulatory provisions to have coloured and flavoured salt as gourmet salts

Mixing salt with different ingredients and additives is offering to consumers a broader range of gourmet salt products and enable salt producers to innovate. However, the regulatory framework restricts the



addition of additives to salt. In the current EU Regulation on additives, the carry-over principle indicates that an additive can be present in a compound foodstuff if it is allowed in one of the compound foodstuff ingredients.

Publications

- [Annual Report 5/2014-5/2015](#)– Finnish Network for Sustainable Mining
- [Taste of Science](#) issue n°3

Events

SAVE THE DATE!! EuSalt General Assembly from 26 to 28 June 2017

We are very happy to announce that the next General Assembly will take place in Brussels on 26 to 28 June 2017.

Sessions on optimum nutrition, on safety in the workplace, on the Circular Economy in the salt sector and on corporate social responsibility are organised with speakers from other sectors as well as with European policy-makers.

They will take place in different places and encourage interactions between all participants. Registrations should open soon. Stay tuned!



SAVE THE DATE The next **World Salt Symposium** will take place on **19th-21st June 2018** in park City (U.S.A.). More information to come.

Upcoming Events	
1-15 Aug.	EuSalt offices closed
22-26 Aug.	3rd World Association of Soil and Water Conservation (WASWAC) Belgrade (Serbia)
1st Sep.	ECHA Biocides Stakeholder Day
12 Sep.	Safety Expert group meeting
13 Sep.	NEEIP meeting
14-16 Sep.	EuroChlor General Assembly (Amsterdam, The Netherlands)
15-16 Sep.	EFLA Congress (Krakow, Poland)
20-21 Sep.	Slovak Presidency conference 'Prevention of chronic non-

	communicable diseases and healthy lifestyle' (Bratislava, Slovakia)
21-22 Sep.	Meetings of the Competent Authorities on Biocidal Products (CA) and the Standing Committee on Biocidal Products (SCBP) (Brussels, Belgium)
25-28 Sep.	Solution Mining Research Institute Technical Conference (Salzburg, Austria)
5-7 Oct.	XXI International "Quo Vadis" Symposium (Beskid Żywiecki, Poland)
18-19 Oct.	EuSalt Analytical Task Force meeting (Unterbreizbach, Germany)

24-30 Oct.	European Week for Safety and Health at Work (across Europe)
3 Nov.	EuSalt Board meeting
17 Nov _[w/12] .	The Concrete Dialogues 2016 (Brussels, Belgium)
22-25 Nov.	3rd International Biocides congress (Antalya, Turkey)

1-3 Mar. 2017	Salt Institute General Assembly (Naples FL, USA)
21-23 Mar. 2017	Roskill Salt Conference and Exhibition (Cologne, Germany)
15-17 Nov. 2017	World Iodine Association General Assembly (Pisa, Italy)
19-21 Jun. 2018	World Salt Symposium (Park City, USA)

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