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September Highlights

Diesel particles in the Carcinogens and Mutagens Directives

Following the recommendation of the IARC (the International Agency for Research on Cancer) and the conclusions from the scientific report DG Employment ordered to IOM on the impact of amending the Carcinogens and Mutagens Directive (CMD), the European Commission (EC) introduced a proposal to amend the CMD.

The European Commission asked the Scientific Committee on Occupational Exposure Limits ([SCOEL](#)) to issue a recommendation for an OEL to Diesel Engines Exhaust Emission (DEEE), among other priority chemical agents, by the end of the year. Based on this, a new proposal to amend the CMD should be published in 2017 by the EC including DEEE. This chemical agent should then be included in the CMD as a Process-Generated Substance with a potential Occupational Environment Limit of $100\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ following the IOM report conclusions.



Slovenian Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food issues a technical regulation on food grade salt

In Slovenia, the Ministry of Food drafted a new technical regulation concerning the quality of food grade salt for the final consumer as well as for food production.

On 13th September, the European Commission notified European Member States about it. This 2015/1535 notification procedure enables the Commission and European Member States to be informed and oppose a national draft technical regulation for products (and for Information Society services) before it is adopted. External comments can also be sent to the European Commission for information only.



This draft regulation lays down the conditions regarding salt quality, labelling and conformity assessment. It is in alignment with the Codex Alimentarius for food grade salt and with other similar European national legislations. Comments to this draft can be [sent](#) until 14 December 2016 to the European Commission.

EuSalt Safety Award 2016

EuSalt, as a responsible sector representative, strives to promote the creation of a safe working environment for all personal working within the salt industry. In bringing this vision to reality, an EuSalt Safety award 2017 will again be handed to an EuSalt member sharing a best practices and promoting the importance of safety. The safety award itself is a unique artwork from the Irish artist Ruth Lyons is made out of salt. Again the participants to the General Assembly 2017 will be the jury by electing the award winning project amongst the 6 applications.

EuSalt Safety and Health Expert Group meeting conclusion

The EuSalt Safety and Health Expert Group met on 26 September 2016. They confirmed the objective of the Safety and Health session to be organized during the next EuSalt General Assembly. Speakers from different industries and backgrounds should be invited to listen and share experiences and best practices in Safety and Health management in companies. The objective is to learn by sharing and knowing different approaches from outside the salt industry. The Salt Industry firmly believes that sharing is a source of knowledge and knowledge is about sharing as central in

its strategy. For this reason, the Expert Group agreed on setting up a system to share on a monthly basis a short and informative note on one event involving safety and health issues. This should be published regularly in the Grain of Salt.

Participants to the meeting also reiterated their active interest in participating to the [Healthy Workplaces](#) for all ages campaign from EU-OSHA. The next meeting organized will be kindly hosted by Tata Chemicals in the UK followed by a site visit in April 2017.

Climate & Environment

European Parliament discussion on EU-ETS amendments

In the Environment Committee, MEPS debated on 29 September on amendments to the report of Rapporteur Ian Duncan (UK, ECR). The necessity to compensate for indirect emissions generated by increased electricity prices was part of the discussion. While solutions proposed by the different MEPs and parties differ, a majority consider that compensation should be foreseen for these emissions occurring indirectly.

[EuSalt](#) is calling for harmonisation in the way indirect carbon costs are dealt with compared with direct carbon costs. In Europe, some industries and specific technologies may be at risk of carbon leakage because of indirect costs created by ETS. This concerns namely increased electricity costs that cannot be passed on to the consumer.

Indeed, in the salt industry, some technologies are heat-intensive whilst others are electricity-intensive. Yet, only the former is effectively identified as at risk of carbon leakage

(Commission Decision 2014/746/EU) under the current system. EuSalt is in favour of an equal treatment of direct and indirect carbon costs, so as to guarantee a level playing field within the sector.

The debate in the European Parliament seems to consider favourably this position. Nevertheless, discussions are not final yet. The next Environment Working Party meeting should take place on 4th October in the Council and the vote in the Environment Committee is scheduled on 8th December.

Amendment to Dutch Mining Decree on brine – notification procedure from the European Commission

On 12 September, the European Commission published a notification regarding a technical regulation amending a mining decree on brine in the Netherlands. This notification procedure allows the Commission and European Member States to be informed of new pieces of legislation with a potential impact on the free circulation of goods and services. They can – if necessary – oppose it before it is adopted.

In the Netherlands, in addition to the environmental permit (and if necessary, an environmental impact assessment), a mining permit is also required when depositing substances into the subsoil. Brine defined as 'water with an increased mineral concentration that remains after obtaining water from abstracted brackish groundwater' is considered as a waste that you can depose in the environment.

The 'double' permit (i.e. environment and mining) is no longer requested thanks to a new Decree from the Dutch Ministry of Economic Affairs. The Decree stipulates that a mining permit is not necessary if the brine is re-introduced at a depth of no more than 500 metres in the same area from where it was abstracted and that no substances have been added to it.

Opinions about the draft decree can be [sent](#) to the European Commission until 12 December 2016. Comments from external stakeholders can also be sent to the European Commission for information only. The planned entry into force is 1st January 2017 or in the first quarter 2017.

ENSQM - the quarrying and mining sector engagement for sustainability

The European Innovation Partnership (EIP) on Raw Materials is a platform gathering industry, public services, academia and NGOs together. Its mission is to help and guide all these stakeholders with innovative approaches to the challenges about raw materials.

The EIP aims at rationalising efforts and accelerating market take-up of innovations. It should help raise industry's contribution to the EU GDP to around 20% by 2020. Only non-energy and non-agricultural raw materials are targeted.

Since March 2016, several associations, including EuSalt, involved in quarrying and mining have agreed upon a Commitment under the EIP on Raw Material. The purpose is to enable a dialogue on quarrying practices in Europe and challenges encountered. They can be about environmental, social and economic issues relating to existing, closing or forthcoming quarrying activities.



The [ENSQM](#) should facilitate access to resources, develop best practices for biodiversity rehabilitation and enhancement, resolve land-use planning conflict, manage social and environmental impacts, ensure the well-being of employees and promote employment, and finally protect cultural heritage.

A first workshop was organised in Spain last June with the presence of Danial Calleja Crespo, Director General for Environment in DG Environment. A second one is scheduled in Germany in 2017. More should be organised in other European countries in the following years. The ENSQM period of implementation is set up until 2020.

More news

EU Policy News



Discussion on Third Update of EU Catalogue of feed materials

In accordance with Regulation (EC) No 767/2009 on the placing on the market and use of feed, the EU

Catalogue of feed materials is being updated. The EU Commission addressed during the summer last comments on the text from Member States.

The amended definition of Sodium Chloride (chapter 11, entry n°11.4.1) was accepted: 'Sodium chloride (NaCl) or product obtained by evaporative crystallisation from brine (*saturated or depleted in another process*) (vacuum salt) or evaporation of seawater (marine salt *and solar salt*) or grinding rock salt'.

The updated Catalogue should now be included in the legislative proposal the Commission will submit to the European Parliament and the Council on 13th – 14th October 2016 and adopted by the end of the year.

Publications

- Iodine Global Network 2015 Annual [Report](#)

Events



SAVE THE DATE 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 (with the EuSalt Safety Awards), 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. Topics should cover a wide array of interests: from jobs' creation, to biodiversity protection, but also natural resources management in a circular system and safety best practices.

Sessions will take place in different places in Brussels including the Sofitel Hotel place Jourdan. The General Assembly aims at encouraging interactions between all participants.

As previous years, EuSalt welcomes the support from external partners through sponsorship. We are happy to say that Salt Partners already confirmed its support. Send an email to wouter.lox@eusalt.com to get more information on the different opportunities available.

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.). If you are interested in sponsoring, there are bronze, silver or gold sponsorships available (respectfully \$10,000, \$25,000, \$50,000).

Sponsors at the silver and gold level will have a booth/table at the symposium as well as special signage at the conference and on the registration website. Gold sponsors will also have recognition during announcements and additional signage. Bronze sponsors will also have signage, but no booth space.

If you have any questions about the World Salt Symposium, you can contact: lori@saltinstitute.org or +1 239-231-3305. For more details about the program and sponsorship opportunities, please visit: <http://www.worldsaltsymposium.org/>

SAVE THE DATE The [World Iodine Association](#) is organising for the first time an international conference on Iodine in Food Systems and Health: Iodine is an essential element for human health. To ensure optimal intake of iodine for humans is key in prevention of Iodine Deficiency Disorders. This is a mission supported by the WIA. The Scientific Steering Committee is chaired by Margaret Rayman (Professor of Nutritional Medicine, University of Surrey, UK), and supported by the WIA Scientific Advisory Board. It will take place in Pisa (Italy) from 15 to 17 November 2017.

To date, confirmed key-note speakers are Michael Zimmermann (CH), Alex Stewart (UK), Ismail Cakmak (TR), Sarah Bath (UK), Elizabeth Pearce (USA) and Tatsuo Kaiho (JP). WIA invites all participants to present research papers. More information will be available soon on the WIA website. To receive updates on the international conference please contact info@worldiodineassociation.com

Upcoming Events	
5-7 Oct.	XXI International “Quo Vadis” Symposium (Beskid Żywiecki, Poland)
6 Oct.	Recommendations for Future Sustainability Assessment final stakeholder event (Brussels, Belgium)
6 Oct.	EuSalt Task Force Facts & Figures
10 Oct.	European RoundTable on Climate Change and Sustainable Transition (ERCST): Effort Sharing Regulation: State of Play and way forward
11 Oct.	ERCST : EU ETS Phase 4, fit for purpose
11 Oct.	5 th Biocidal Products Symposium (Brussels, Belgium)
12 Oct.	Food waste in the circular economy – who is responsible? FTI breakfast meeting (Brussels, Belgium)
13-14 Oct.	Sub-Regional Consultative Workshop for Countries in the UNICEF CEE/CIS Region on Sustainable Prevention of Iodine Deficiency and Achievement of

	Optimal Iodine Nutrition (Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina)
14 Oct.	2016 Information Day of the Research Public-Private Partnerships (Brussels, Belgium)
18-19 Oct.	EuSalt Analytical Task Force meeting (Untereibzsch, Germany)
24-30 Oct.	European Week for Safety and Health at Work (across Europe)
25 Oct.	EuSalt Circular Economy Expert Group meeting
3 Nov.	EuSalt Board meeting (Brussels, Belgium)
3 Nov.	EMFEMA 20-year anniversary conference (Brussels, Belgium)
15 Nov.	Alliance for YOUth, Nestlé conference (Brussels, Belgium)
16 Nov.	UEPG Sustainable Development Awards ceremony (Brussels, Belgium)
17 Nov.	The Concrete Dialogues 2016 (Brussels, Belgium)
21-22 Nov.	Conference on Sustainability of Mineral Resources and the Environment (Bratislava, Slovakia)

22-25 Nov.	3rd International Biocides congress (Antalya, Turkey)
1 Dec.	European Innovation Partnership Raw Materials conference (Brussels, Belgium)
13 Dec.	European Food Law Association (EFLA) meeting
1-3 Mar. 2017	Salt Institute General Assembly (Naples FL, USA)

21-23 Mar.	Roskill Salt Conference and Exhibition (Cologne, Germany)
26-28 Jun.	EuSalt General Assembly (Brussels, Belgium)
15-17 Nov.	World Iodine Association General Assembly (Pisa, Italy)
19-21 Jun. 2018	World Salt Symposium (Park City, USA)

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