
Implications for Chemicals Management

Michael Gribble, ICCA
UNEP, DTIE, Chemicals Branch Learning Center, CSD-19
May 3, 2011
HISTORY:

• 10 SHORT YEARS AGO no one had heard of an iPod or even an `i` anything!
HISTORY:

• 10 SHORT YEARS AGO no one had heard of an iPod or even an ‘i’ anything!

• 10 YEARS AGO you could not buy a HYBRID CAR at the local garage
HISTORY:

• 10 SHORT YEARS AGO no one had heard of an iPod or even an `i` anything!

• 10 YEARS AGO you could not buy a HYBRID CAR at the local garage

• Even worse, you could not even order a GPS navigational system for a car
HISTORY:

• 10 SHORT YEARS AGO no one had heard of an iPod or even an `i` anything!

• 10 YEARS AGO you could not buy a HYBRID CAR at the local garage

• Even worse, you could not even order a GPS navigational system for a car then

• In the same timeframe you could only read an actual book, there was no Kindle
HISTORY:

• 10 SHORT YEARS AGO no one had heard of an iPod or even an `i` anything!
• 10 YEARS AGO you could not buy a HYBRID CAR at the local garage
• Even worse, you could not even order a GPS navigational system for a car then
• In the same timeframe you could only read an actual book, there was no Kindle
• and at the start of the decade there was no such thing as Facebook & YouTube!
HISTORY:

• 10 SHORT YEARS AGO no one had heard of an iPod or even an `i` anything!
• 10 YEARS AGO you could not buy a HYBRID CAR at the local garage
• Even worse, you could not even order a GPS navigational system for a car then
• In the same timeframe you could only read an actual book, there was no Kindle
• and at the start of the decade there was no such thing as YouTube!

MY POINT IS:
HISTORY:

• 10 SHORT YEARS AGO no one had heard of an iPod or even an `i` anything!

• 10 YEARS AGO you could not buy a HYBRID CAR at the local garage

• Even worse, you could not even order a GPS navigational system for a car then

• In the same timeframe you could only read an actual book, there was no Kindle

• and at the start of the decade there was no such thing as YouTube!

MY POINT IS:

THERE IS A NEVER ENDING TORRENT OF INNOVATION WHICH LEADS TO NEW PRODUCTS WHICH CONSUMERS BUY DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY, ALL OF WHICH ARE ENABLED BY CHEMISTRY
TRENDS IN CHEMICALS PRODUCTION & USE

• Chemicals production and use is now a globalized industry

• Low cost feedstocks in Middle East drove migration of new capacity for petrochemicals production from NA/WE/Japan to Saudi Arabia/Kuwait etc.

• Fast-growing markets in developing countries attracted investment by global chemical companies, particularly in China and India.

• In addition down-stream chemical users invested in these developing countries attracted by lower manufacturing costs to serve local and export markets.

• Latest emerging trend for commodity petrochemicals is the increased long term & cost-competitive natural gas supply in USA leading to investment in new production capacity.

• A much greater focus on the use of chemicals in the supply chain through voluntary and regulatory activities will require a significant emphasis on a total life cycle approach including end of life involving all actors in the chain.
More than 80,000 chemicals in commerce

Industry has inadequate knowledge on hazards and exposure

Downstream users of chemicals, and especially consumers cannot make informed decisions without access to information.

Too much reliance on ineffective exposure control and not enough emphasis on reducing hazard through substitution.

All of these problems are “worse” in developing countries

Improve Chemicals Management: SAICM Framework
ICCA is accelerating industry progress

- At ICCM-1 (Dubai, 2006) ICCA introduced two voluntary initiatives,
  - Responsible Care Global Charter (RCGC) and
  - Global Product Strategy (GPS)

- To improve sound management of chemicals globally

- All major chemical companies accepted the obligation to put RCGC and GPS into practice

- External review process through ICCM’s (2012 / 2015 / 2018)
ICCA Strong Commitment to SAICM

GPS and Responsible Care are the cornerstones of industries' contribution, but ICCA is also:

- Partnering with UNEP on projects that contribute to SAICM implementation (Memorandum of Understanding)
- An active participant in intersessional SAICM work (e.g. dialogues on chemicals in products, financing, nanotechnology, QSP Ex. Board)
- Committed to report progress against SAICM parameters (BER)
- Seeking new ways to engage with other SAICM stakeholders (e.g. NGOs) on projects to advance SAICM objectives

Partnership in Focus: Joint activities in strategic areas
Advantages / Strength of SAICM

- SAICM as an innovative model of how multi-stakeholder frameworks can help advance sustainable development objectives.

- Public-private partnerships to supplement inter-governmental activities and act as a catalyst for improved implementation.

- Ensuring that regulatory frameworks are adopted to integrate chemicals management into national development plans.

- Enhance capacity building and technical cooperation to address the lack of capacity in parts of the developing world.
Global Product Strategy – Tools for Success

- Promote knowledge and skills transfer
  - Training Workshops
  - Guidance materials
  - GPS Network of experts

- Improve the availability of information
  - Base Set of Information
  - GPS Safety Summary
  - Web-based IT-Portal

- Increase awareness on chemical management
  - ICCA Principles for Chemical Management Systems

- Research on existing and emerging issues
  - ICCA Long Range Research Initiative (LRI)
ICCA / UNEP Memorandum of Understanding

- The MoU outlines joint activities in **strategic areas** such as:
  - Sound Management of Chemicals
  - Chemical Accident Prevention & Responsible Production
  - Responsible Care and the Global Product Strategy
  - Harmonization of Chemicals Management Systems

- To be delivered through capacity building, value chain outreach and stakeholder dialogue.

- A joint steering group will manage activities and pilot projects.

**Partnership in Focus:** Strengthen Governance
ICCA Response – By 2020, ICCA will have:

• Established a base set of hazard and exposure information adequate to conduct safety assessments for chemicals in commerce.

• Improved global capacity to implement best practices in risk assessment and chemicals management, especially in developing countries.

• Shared relevant product safety information with co-producers, governments and the public.

• Worked across the value chain so that suppliers and customers can effectively evaluate risks and enhance their performance across the product lifecycle.
Conclusions

- ICCA remains committed to the WSSD 2020 goal and supports further strengthening of SAICM as multistakeholder framework to achieve this objective.

- The global chemical industry has a critical contribution to make in enhancing chemicals management worldwide via Responsible Care® and the Global Product Strategy.

- ICCA continues to pursue opportunities for collaboration with other stakeholders.

- A balanced combination of regulations and voluntary initiatives can achieve safe management of chemicals.
BACK-UP SLIDES
Societal evolution – Towards Sound Management

1972
Global Environmental Conference, Stockholm → Creation of UNEP

1985
Responsible Care

1992
Rio Earth Summit → Agenda 21

2002
WSSD (World Summit on Sustainable Development), Johannesburg – sets 2020 goal

2006
Responsible Care Global Charter & Global Product Strategy

2006
ICCM-1, Dubai Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICM)

2020 Goal
Safer Chemicals Management

50 years of evolution: From Chemical Safety to Product Stewardship
Promote knowledge and skill transfer

- **Longer-term capacity building efforts** to improve competency of SMEs and developing countries. Specialists from leading chemical companies provide training and knowledge transfer.

- **Comprehensive set of guidance materials** for risk assessment and risk management. This guidance particularly addresses small and medium sized enterprises in developing economies.

- **ICCA GPS network of experts**, who will answer technical questions about risk assessment or on GPS safety summaries.
ICCA Capacity Building Workshops

Target SMEs: Tools & Best Practices Train the Trainer

SMEs In Focus: Capacity building and technical cooperation
Improve Industry Performance – GPS Guidance

Section One: Preparation
- **Step 1**: Select chemicals for assessment
- **Step 2**: Gather information
- **Step 3**: Prioritize chemicals into Tiers
- **Step 4**: Develop Tier information

Section Two: Implementation
- **Step 5**: Characterize Hazard
- **Step 6**: Assess Exposure
- **Step 7**: Conduct Risk Characterization
- **Step 8**: Document Safety Summary

SMEs In Focus: Risk Reduction
Improve the availability of information

- A **Base set of information** is gathered for chemicals placed on the market. Relevant information for risk assessment will be made available to minimize unnecessary animal testing.

- Furthermore, to promote greater transparency, companies will provide information about marketed substances, in an easily understandable format (**GPS Safety Summary**)

- **Web-based IT-Portal** to make relevant information collected under GPS publicly available. All interested stakeholders will have open access to this portal.
Free public access to relevant information on chemicals and products for all stakeholders.

Companies initially provided >1600 GPS Safety Summaries. More to be available e.g. within 1 year after the respective REACH Tier deadline.

The official public launch took place on 4th October 2010.

Public In Focus: Improve knowledge and information
Increase awareness on chemical management

- National chemicals policies should be based on common principles to foster consistency and transparency in regulatory systems

“Principles for Chemical Management Systems”

- Science and risk-based decision making
- Tiered, intelligent risk-based approach to chemical evaluations
- Leveraging existing information to reduce animals and testing
- Transparency and shared responsibility along the value chain
- Improved public confidence in chemical policies
Policy Options to Address Constraints & Barriers

- Further strengthening of SAICM as an innovative model of how multi-stakeholder frameworks can help advance sustainable development objectives.
- Public-private partnerships to supplement inter-governmental activities and act as a catalyst for improved implementation.
  - e.g. UNEP Senior Experts Resource Group under SAICM.
- Ensuring that chemical regulatory frameworks adopted as part of efforts to integrate chemicals management into national development plans:
  - Promote science and risk-based decision making, and leverage existing information to reduce animal testing.
  - Promote transparency in ensuring that relevant product safety information is shared with producers, suppliers and end-users.
  - Emphasize shared responsibility across the supply chain to build public confidence that chemicals are managed safely throughout their lifecycle.
Policy Options to Address Constraints & Barriers

• Ensure that policy frameworks facilitate rather than hinder the deployment of products and technologies that contribute to sustainable and innovative solutions to current challenges.
  » This includes enabling technologies that promote greener outcomes.

• Enhance capacity building and technical cooperation to address the lack of capacity in parts of the developing world to effectively manage chemicals.
  » Since 2008, ICCA has held over 30 capacity building workshops to assist industry (and SMEs in particular) with implementing best practices in chemicals management.
  » ICCA is also working with UNEP under the ICCA-UNEP MOU on plans for new capacity building initiatives targeted at areas of greatest need.