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Subject: Development of a European database on occupational exposure to hazardous chemicals

Dear Ms. Woldbæk,

We address you as the responsible contact person for the data source EXPO.

By mandate of the European Commission, Directorate-General Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion we are conducting a study to create a database and develop a model to estimate the occupational exposure for a list of hazardous chemicals in the Member States of the European Union and EFTA/EEA countries. The first step of this study is to collect information on existing exposure data from European countries. Based on available data occupational exposure to chemicals should be estimated in sectors and countries, for which no actual data exist up to now.

The study is realised by a consortium consisting of Kooperationsstelle Hamburg IFE (Germany)¹, the Federal Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (BAUA, Germany) and the National Research and Development Institute on Occupational Safety - "Alexandru Darabont" (INCDPM, Romania). More information can be found on the website www.hazchematwork.eu.

Attached to this letter is a supporting letter from the Directorate-General Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion.

We would kindly ask you to support our work by *filling in an online questionnaire* (at https://de.surveymonkey.com/s/hazchematwork) or by suggesting relevant literature describing data sources dealing with job exposure to chemicals in your country. Please feel free to fill in the attached PDF version of the questionnaire, if you prefer.

We would be grateful to receive your contribution until 6 March 2015. The completed PDF questionnaire may be sent to info@hazchematwork.eu. In order to minimise the effort required to complete the questionnaire we offer a telephone support to discuss any questions or technical problems that may come up (telephone number: +49-(0)40-484010-100).

In case you may be unable to provide the information we would be grateful if you would recommend another expert / authority / institute whom we could approach.

At a later stage we might contact you again to ask if and under which conditions data from the data source EXPO for a list of substances could be used for a newly created European occupational exposure database. The way in which this database will be maintained and updated in the future is currently explored by the European Commission.

Thank you in advance for your highly appreciated efforts.

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Please do not hesitate to contact us (<u>info@hazchematwork.eu</u> or +49-(0)40-484010-100) if you have any question.

Yours faithfully

Dr. Lothar Lißner

¹ Kooperationsstelle Hamburg IFE provides services and studies in the domain of occupational safety, health and environmental protection as well as of standardisation and labour market development, on national and international level (see also: www.kooperationsstelle-hh.de).