

Texte 89/99:

Guidance Manual for Formulators and other Professional User of Chemicals

Requirements With Regard To The Release Of Chemical Substances Into Water Ecosystems - Information for the Users of Chemicals

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Following up the research project on „Requirements for Discharges of substances into waters“ (UBA-Texte 60/99) it seemed appropriate to convey the newly gained knowledge to industrial users of water-relevant substances. This was to be done in such a way that they themselves would be able to undertake an assessment of substances according to their environmental soundness.

This Guidance Manual presents the latest scientific knowledge in the field of substances in the aquatic environment in a user-oriented manner.

The manual is divided into three parts. The first part (Chapters 1 to 5) concentrates mainly on the long term strategies for the protection of surface water system from chemicals, the according regulatory system and environmental management systems at company level.

The first chapter explains the objectives, principles and precautionary strategies in using hazardous chemicals from the viewpoint of surface water protection.

Chapter Two gives an overview on the regulated areas and the legal requirements in Germany.

The third chapter outlines the roles played by the various actors as well as the instruments to improve information and communication on the properties of chemicals and possible risks.

Chapter Four summarizes the benefits the users of chemicals may gain from precautionary pro-active actions at company level.

Chapter Five suggests summarizing basic rules which the users of chemicals should follow.

Chapter Six outlines a framework concept for characterizing and assessing chemicals at company and association level. The procedure is based upon the classification of use patterns, upon hazard classification and risk-phrases (EU Directive 67/548) and upon information provided in the EU safety data sheets. The classification into aquatic hazard categories according to the German system of *Water Hazard Classes* („*Wassergefährdungsklassen*“) has been integrated.

The appendices provide additional information and advice with regard to specific questions.

Appendix 1 contains checklists for the evaluation of safety data sheets with regard to environmentally relevant information.

Appendix 2 contains lists of products which can be of particular significance for the protection of surface water.

Appendix 3 provides an overview on the current systems used for assessing substances.

Appendix 4 contains a list of examples of priority substances with regard to the protection of surface water.

Appendix 5 contains the risk-phrases which are relevant in context of the manual.

In Appendix 6 the key terms and abbreviation used in the manual can be referenced.

The Guidance Manual addresses those companies and industrial associations which would like to optimize their actions towards water-relevant substances.