

## Vision Statement

eChemPortal, the Global Portal to Information on Chemical Substances, will be the preferred worldwide source of information about chemicals from authorities and international organisations.

[oe.cd/echemportal](http://oe.cd/echemportal)

### A Vision for the future

eChemPortal maximizes access to information on chemicals for all stakeholders for whom such information is critical, regulators and industry, and benefits academics, international organisations and the general public - regardless of geography or purpose.

The OECD and its members countries are dedicated to protecting human health and the environment by promoting chemical safety worldwide. eChemPortal is a key OECD tool supporting this work. For all stakeholders, including in developing countries, eChemPortal will be the key tool for finding information to support health and environment decisions concerning chemicals.

eChemPortal aims to be the global Internet portal that provides free easy access to all existing information of regulatory relevance on chemicals by linking directly to collections of information prepared for government and international organisation chemical programmes at national, regional, and international levels.

eChemPortal will expand the ability of governments to efficiently access information in order to share the burden of work, ensure resource efficiencies, and avoid duplication of work on assessment and, subsequently, reduce animal testing.

eChemPortal can help transform data into knowledge by encouraging users to build knowledge sharing communities around eChemPortal.

## Background

Since 1971, the OECD Chemicals Programme has been helping governments and industry find the most cost-effective way of assessing and managing the risks posed by chemicals. eChemPortal is an element of this work and countries' stated plan to "facilitate public access to appropriate information and knowledge on chemicals".

eChemPortal provides key support towards achieving long-standing international commitments to identify and make information on chemical properties publicly available. Improving public access to chemical information was a key objective agreed by countries that participated in the UN International Conference on Chemicals Management in Dubai in February 2006, and is part of their wider Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management.

To facilitate the sharing of chemical data, eChemPortal was implemented using the common electronic data formats prescribed by the OECD Harmonised Templates for Reporting Chemical Test Summaries.

eChemPortal was developed with the financial assistance of the European Chemicals Agency and has benefited from the contributions of governments, international organisations, non-governmental organisations and the chemical industry.

## Vision goals

Building on progress already achieved, the goals of eChemPortal are, through the co-operation of OECD member countries working with relevant stakeholders:

- All information needed to assess the risks of chemicals to human health and the environment will be within the scope of information which will be linked from or brought into eChemPortal.
- All relevant data sources available freely through the Internet will be linked to from eChemPortal.
- Strong commitment to reliable chemical identification will continue to facilitate efficient searches for information by providing well-understood entry points to an enormous data volume.
- The search experience for users will be easy, despite the variety of information sources and data formats, by marshaling data into a uniform presentation format.
- All relevant audiences will be aware of eChemPortal, and an active user community will be brought together and identified.
- Unnecessary duplication of work across National /Regional Programmes in assessment will be eliminated.

## Achieving the Vision

In order to achieve the Vision the following actors are encouraged to perform the following actions:

- OECD member countries are encouraged to make relevant data freely available on the Internet.
- OECD Stakeholders are encouraged to identify relevant data to be linked to eChemPortal.
- Data sources are encouraged to implement IT systems with the OECD Harmonised Templates.
- OECD member countries are encouraged to develop processes to submit data to eChemPortal.
- OECD member countries will steer the development of eChemPortal in coordination with the OECD Secretariat to improve the efficient and transparent delivery of information to users.
- All OECD Stakeholders are encouraged to make available sufficient resources to maintain and develop the eChemPortal application to meet the Vision.
- Stakeholders in the chemical community are encouraged to actively participate in all collaborative aspects of eChemPortal.

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For more information, contact the OECD Secretariat at [eChemPortal@oecd.org](mailto:eChemPortal@oecd.org)



in co-operation with

