

SUBSTITUTION SUPPORT PORTAL – MOVING TOWARDS SAFER ALTERNATIVES

www.subsport.eu

What are the objectives of the SUBSPORT project?

Internet portal

The goal of the SUBSPORT project is to develop an internet portal that constitutes a state-of-the-art resource on safer alternatives to the use of hazardous chemicals. It should be a source of not just information on alternative substances and technologies, but also of tools and guidance for substance evaluation and substitution management.

Substitution tool

The portal is intended to support companies in fulfilling substitution requirements of EU legislation, such as those specified under the REACH authorisation procedure, the Water Framework Directive or the Chemical Agents Directive. Furthermore other stakeholders like authorities, environmental and consumer organisations as well as scientific institutions will benefit from the portal.

What does substitution mean?

The **substitution of chemicals** is a fundamental measure to reduce risks arising from the use of dangerous chemicals in products and processes. Substitution can support risk reduction for the environment, workers, consumers and public health. Substitution can be accomplished by the use of an alternative, less hazardous substance. In many cases other technologies that do not need hazardous chemicals can be applied. We do not consider the reduction of exposures to dangerous substances, e.g. by means of protective or containment measures like extraction or waste water treatment plants, to be substitution.

Network

In addition, the project aims to create a network of experts and stakeholders who are active in substitution. The network should assist in content development and promotion of the portal as well as ensuring sustainable updates and maintenance. This will contribute to the project's goal of raising awareness and promoting safer alternatives. Furthermore, training on substitution methodology and alternatives assessment will be provided.

What will be integrated in the Substitution Support Portal?

The project partners will offer the following information on the internet portal SUBSPORT (www.subsport.eu) and make it publicly available in four languages:

- a structured presentation of legal information on substitution throughout the European Union and, in part, on an international and national level
- a database comprising general information on alternatives for hazardous substances
- a list of alternative substances and methods to assess their applicability in substitution processes
- a detailed, evaluated compilation of case studies which document practical experiences in the substitution of 10 selected substances of very high concern in different essential applications
- a description and assessment of existing substitution tools
- interactive elements for discussion, networking, exchange of information and experience as well as for portal updates
- concepts and materials for substitution training programs

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What results are expected?

SUSBPOR will offer systematic and reliable information on substitution in the form of a database. The aim is to promote practical substitution activities in many sectors and enterprises, i.e.:

- initiation of many practical substitution processes
- support in achieving compliance with legal substitution requirements
- network of experts for updating, quality management and dissemination of the portal
- leading database for substitution worldwide

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All contributions to the project will be reviewed by specific expert committees and applicability will be evaluated by a group of small or medium sized enterprises.

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