



NEWS RELEASE

EFCG SETS OUT IMPLEMENTATION PLANS FOR THEIR NEW 'VOLUNTARY GUIDELINES FOR FINE CHEMICAL MANUFACTURERS'

Brussels, 30th September 2008.

The European Fine Chemicals Group (EFCG) set out the implementation plans for their new, worldwide "Voluntary Guidelines for ISO-regulated Fine Chemical Manufacturers" at CPhI in Frankfurt today.

The Voluntary Guidelines are a proposed set of minimum requirements for global manufacturers of non-pharma fine chemical intermediates and active ingredients.

Based on all 9 elements of the Voluntary Guidelines, which were launched at Chemspec in June, EFCG has developed a consistent, easy-to-use Business Integrity Evaluation (BIEn) template to evaluate suppliers and help customers reach a 'purchase/no purchase' decision within less than half a day.

The implementation plan calls for the Agrochemical Intermediates' Manufacturers in Europe (AIME) - a sub-section of EFCG - to pilot test, validate and improve the new BIEn template during the next 6 months with their suppliers. The workability of the template will then be reviewed before widening its use to the rest of EFCG members during 2009.

Allan Laing, Chairman of AIME said today that "the initial driver for the Voluntary Guidelines was the need to better manage the risks in the food supply chain resulting from the globalisation of the manufacture and supply of agrochemical intermediates and active ingredients given the increased involvement of players from the emerging markets". He added, "I believe that the worldwide adoption of these Voluntary Guidelines will help improve the global standards of manufacture and distribution of all non-GMP fine chemicals".

Over the next few years, EFCG and AIME plan to engage with national and global chemical manufacturing organisations and stakeholders, including those in China, India, USA and Japan, to help build a network of users worldwide.

Notes for Editors

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EFCG – the European Fine Chemicals Group, www.efcg.cefic.org - provides a forum, a focus and a voice for European fine chemical manufacturers, including those making agrochemical intermediates and active ingredients, to discuss their competitiveness issues and to agree on actions to deal with them.