Registration of offshore chemicals

Registration in Denmark of offshore chemicals is made mainly by the Danish Product Register, but in co-operation with the Danish Environmental Protection Agency.

Danish Product Register (hereafter referred to as PR) is an agency under the Working Environment Authority as a part of the Ministry of Employment.

The Danish Product Register registers all hazardous chemicals and all offshore chemicals (further details are given at homepage: www.at.dk/sw11023.asp). Totally approx. 38,000 chemicals are registered. Of those are approx. 350 actively used offshore chemicals.

The Danish Environmental Protection Agency (hereafter referred to as DEPA) is an agency under the Ministry of the Environment, which as one of its tasks after application from the Danish oil and gas operators gives permission to use and discharge offshore chemicals. No permission will be given for chemicals without a PR number.

The Danish Product Register gives a PR number for the chemicals.

Ecotox information and other types of information about the chemicals is registered at Danish Product Register, and DEPA as an authority has through a special authorised, cleared person (Tage V. Andersen) access (confidentially limited) to this information by a special pc-line.

It normally takes about two weeks to register a new chemical if all necessary information is OK. When the registration is OK the chemical will have its PR. no. From that time DEPA will have access to the registered information. But DEPA will only be aware of new offshore chemicals and PR numbers through an application from an operator to use and discharge that chemical.

Classification of chemicals

Officially we don't have a "colour classification" but follow the classification made in OSPAR Recommendation 2010/4 about pre-screening. The Danish operators have internally different colour classifications.

To make it easier to explain the progress in the substitution process to politicians etc. we have in some cases grouped the classifications from OSPAR in Black, Red, Yellow and Green in the way that according to Appendix 1 of OSPAR
Recommendation 2010/4 Black is the "yes-line" from the box about Annex 2, Red is the three other "yes-lines" in the central box ending at "Is substitute available?". Yellow is the line ending at Ranking and Green is the two lines ending at A. Permission.

**Time limit for the substitution**

At that point we follow the OSPAR rules stated at OSPAR Decision 2000/2, Appendix 1, which especially pays attention to "considerable efforts" in the substitution process made by the operator, and thereby by its suppliers.

We have since October 2001, in agreement with our operators, paid special attention to the substitution of Black and Red chemicals with reports of the possibilities for substitution for specified parts of these chemicals by October 2002 and in April 2003 - 2008.

**National Offshore Action Plan**

In December 2005 the Danish Minister of the Environment, Connie Hedegaard, presented to the Danish Parliament a National Offshore Action Plan which for offshore chemicals says this:

**Chemicals**
- By no later than the end of 2005, operators must have stopped discharges of all "black" chemicals.
- Operators must continue the process of substituting chemicals so that discharges of "red" chemicals cease no later than by the end of 2008, where it is realistically possible ("Best Available Technique"), and where use of alternative chemicals will be an overall environmental advantage.

**Contact persons**

Ms. Graca M. Gosk  
Danish Product Register  
gmg@at.dk  
+45 7220 8753

Mr. Tage V. Andersen  
Danish Environmental Protection Agency  
tva@mst.dk  
+45 7254 4562