

# Basic characterization theo.scheffers@tsac.nl

The stepwise approach to establish a sampling plan in a workplace survey

PDC Testing Compliance with Occupational Exposure Limits, 26 April 2015 Session 2. 09:45 Theo Scheffers Basic characterization



# manage exposure in the workplace

Workplace survey & compliance testing

#### This is the bit we are talking about

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#### Workplace survey



- I. Basic characterization
- II. Choosing the appropriate OEL
- III. Workplace air sampling
- IV. Compliance testing

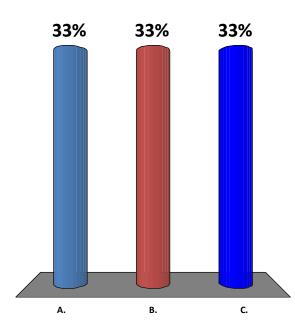




# Polling 1. What is your experience with workplace survey?

- A. None
- B. Limited
- C. Extensive





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### Goal of the workplace survey

To know workers exposure in space & time.

- Easy for ionising radiation
- Difficult for most other occupational loads including chemical exposure
  - Expensive

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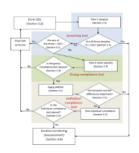
 Complicated (sampling & analytical)

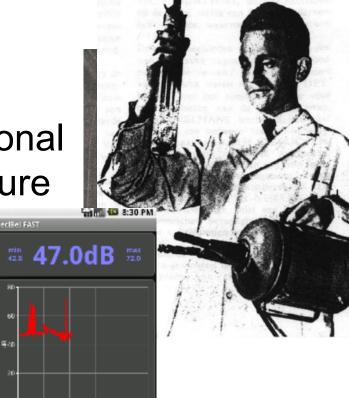
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# Exposure assessment & compliance testing strategies



#### Numerous guidances:

- CEN 689. EU (1996). Outdated as EU standard since 2006. Update 2016(?).
- AIHA "A Strategy for Assessing and Managing Occupational Exposures". (Third edition 2006)
- Leidel & Busch NIOSH 173 (1977) Occupational exposure sampling strategy manual
- The BOHS-NVvA guidance (2011) for group and individual compliance testing
- Practical guidelines within the framework of the EU chemicals at work directive (98/24/EC)
- The ECHA worker exposure assessment guidance within REACH (2010)

#### Describe, focus and minimize sampling effort

See further: <u>http://www.tsac.nl/websites.html#Exposure\_assessment</u>



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### Guidances on workplace survey

#### I. Basic characterization

- 1. Substance risk potential information
- 2. SEG formation
- 3. Prior knowledge
- 4. Sampling strategy
- 5. Sampling & analytical methods libraries
- II. Choosing the best OEL
- III. [Workplace air sampling]
- IV. Compliance testing



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### Substance risk potential information



Goal: to focus on substance with high health hazard, high exposure potential and low OEL

- Physical Chemical properties
  - Qualitative: molecular dispersion (ppm) or conglomerates (mg/m<sup>3</sup>)
  - Quantitative: Saturation concentration ( $C_{sat}$ ) or dustiness
- Health hazard properties (GHS/CLP)
  <a href="http://www.tsac.nl/websites.html#Properties">http://www.tsac.nl/websites.html#Properties</a>



 Risk potential assessment tools like Control Banding, Risk Ranking, ratio OEL/ C<sub>sat</sub> etc.

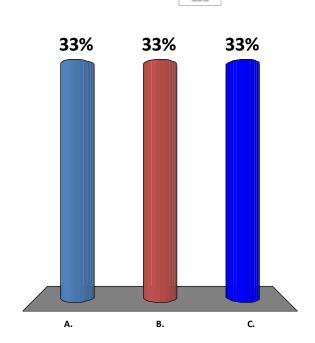


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# Polling 2. Do you use risk potential assessment tools ?

- A. Control Banding,
- B. ratio OEL/ Csat
- C. Others



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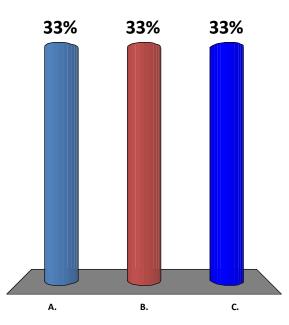
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# Polling 3. For exposure assessment it is important to know

- A. that the substance is a liquid/Gas/Solid
- B. The saturation concentration or dustiness in relation to the OEL







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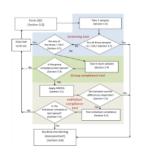
#### Basic characterization, stepwise approach

- 1. Substance risk potential information
- 2. SEG formation
- 3. Prior Knowledge
- 4. Sampling strategy









### Similar Exposure Group

Since compliance of all workers on all shifts cannot be established due to limited resources, we (= industrial hygienists):

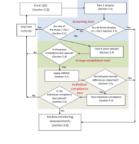
Group workers by task/job

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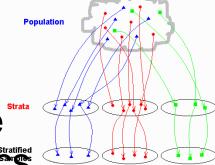
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- Use prior knowledge to focus on high substance contact (level, duration).
- Fill data gaps with Lognormal exposure distribution and uncertainty with statistics
- Sample with lowest sound frequency





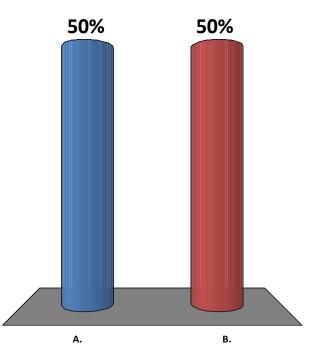




# What is closest to a similar exposure group?

- A. A cluster of comparable job titles at one premises
- B. A task within industry





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### Similar Exposure Group (SEG)

- Workers step in and out:
  - When starting and ending their job (long term) and
  - Daily: begin and end of shift
- workers perform tasks within the shift.
- SEG activity may change (slowly) in time

# Within REACH SEG's are sometimes defined as exposure scenario's (lower case)







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## Similar Exposure Group (SEG)



A SEG is group of workers having the same general exposure profile because of

- the similarity and frequency of the tasks they perform,
- the materials and processes with which they work, and
- the similarity of the way they perform the tasks.

(Mulhausen et al, 1998 p 42)





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PDC Compliance testing, 26 April 2015, S2 Theo Scheffers. Basic characterization

**BOHS** The Chartered Society for Worker Health Protection

#### Basic characterization, stepwise approach

- 1. Substance risk potential information
- 2. SEG
- 3. Prior Knowledge
- 4. Sampling strategy
- 5. Sampling & analytical methods libraries







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### Prior Knowledge



- Earlier measurements
- Publications
- Exposure databases: MEGA (Gr), COLCHIC & SCOLA (Fr), OSHA (USA), NEDB (UK), EXPO (NO)
- Modelling (deterministic or expert judgment)
- Read across (substance or circumstance)
- e-SDS with exposure scenarios

Information may be limited or outdated!

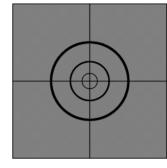


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#### Basic characterization, stepwise approach

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### Sampling strategy

Random stratified sampling

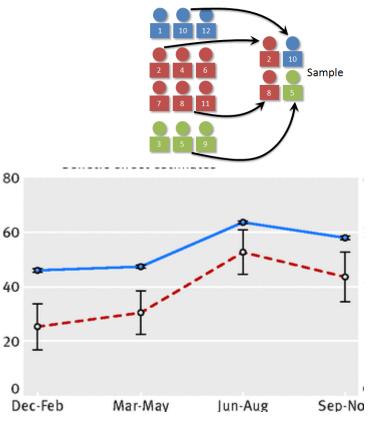
- Within the SEG
- In time/seasons
- Between shifts

# to establish the "real" exposure variability!



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#### Basic characterization, stepwise approach



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## Sampling & analytical methods



Electronic libraries:

- NIOSH analytical method; (4e edition)
- OHSA Sampling & Analytical Methods
- methods of the 2e list of EU IOLV's;
- GESTIS >100 substances;
- INRS sampling methods (in French);
- Commercial databases like IFA, DOHSBase (>3000), ALS

# See <a href="http://www.tsac.nl/websites.html#Workplace\_measurement\_methods">http://www.tsac.nl/websites.html#Workplace\_measurement\_methods</a>



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Outside the scope of today



- BM
- Skin permeation
- mixtures



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#### mixtures

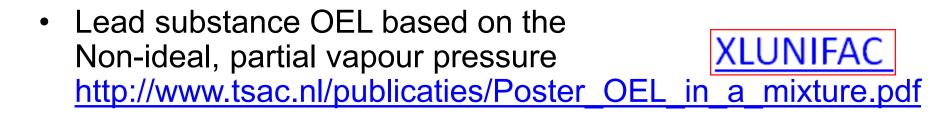
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• Sum score

$$\sum_{i=1}^{i=n} \left( \frac{C_i}{OELV_i} \right) \le 1$$

- Effect specific Sum score
- Risk Assessment Score C<sub>sat</sub>/OEL\*Tox





Manufacturers in REACH





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#### Summar & Next



#### I. Basic characterization Stepwise approach

- 1. Substance information
  - II. Choosing the OEL (next presentation)
- 2. SEG
- 3. Prior Knowledge
- 4. Sampling strategy
- III. Sampling (not in PDC)
- IV. Exposure variability & compliance testing (after the break)



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IOHA & BOHS 2015 London: Building on Occupational Hygiene Together

www.iohalondon2015.org



