

i2a's 2019-2020 Antimony Workplace Exposure Monitoring Campaign Launched!

The Members of the International Antimony Association have voluntarily committed to engage in a Workplace Exposure Monitoring Campaign.

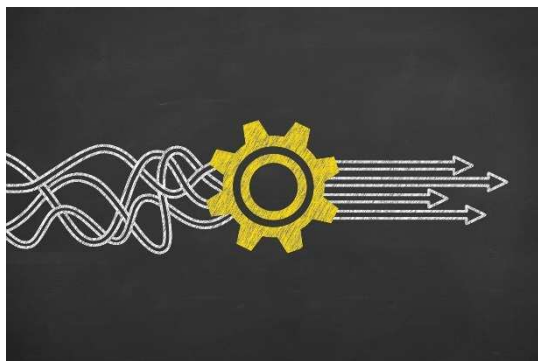
As shared in our Press Release dated 31 May 2019, i2a has worked on nine EU-REACH Evaluation Draft Decisions which call for additional **hazard** evidence to be generated on Sb substances. Hazard data is used by authorities in the EU and worldwide to assess the safety of chemicals including Sb substances. Caroline Braibant (Secretary-General): *“Without recent, robust and real human **exposure** data, the **risk** of Sb substances will be judged on the basis of intrinsic **hazard** evidence only, and demonstration of safe use will be truly jeopardized”.*



Hans Vercammen (Chair of i2a Board) further acknowledges: *“We, the industry have committed ourselves to generate workplace exposure data in a dedicated measurement campaign open to i2a Members and even non-members, starting in 2019”.*

How to monitor occupational exposure to Sb substances?

i2a has developed a dedicated methodology aimed to increase the quality and comparability of the data generated by individual sites, and to optimize the potential for anonymization, aggregation, and interpretation of the data to demonstrate the safe use of Sb substances. Related documents are available on www.antimony.com.



The **i2a Guidance for the monitoring of antimony in inhalable and respirable airborne particulate matter in workplace atmospheres** describes the occupational monitoring methodology.

All data generated from this monitoring exercise needs to be reported in a systematic and complete manner, including all relevant contextual information to ensure that it is scientifically and regulatorily acceptable. The

i2a inhalable and respirable antimony data collection Template (June 2019) **and its supporting Guidance** facilitate the systematic and complete recording and submission of sites data. The use-specific data will be aggregated, analyzed, interpreted and reported in the exposure assessment aimed to demonstrate safety per use. Site confidentiality will be observed.

When will data be collected and reported?

The monitoring initiative will start as a two-year measurement campaign, collecting exposure data in both 2019 and 2020, with the anticipation that sites will commit to participate in both years.

Data collected by end August will be used to present an interim status of the monitoring campaign at the i2a 2019 Sb Day (Antwerp, 1 October). This aims to provide a progress update, increase credibility of the overall initiative, and encourage further participation. Data collected



throughout 2019 will then be used to produce an interim report to evaluate the overall effectiveness and direction the initiative is taking, and provide recommendations on adjustments to the campaign as necessary for the 2020 period. A report will be provided in early 2021, summarizing the outcome of the initiative.

Existing data generated recently but not necessarily applying the i2a recommended methodology can also be useful, and needs to be sent, via the i2a Template, to Shahzad Rashid (IOM) at shahzad.rashid@iom-world.org.

Company and worker confidentiality will always be observed and respected – reports will not contain any company-specific or worker-specific information; all information and data will be anonymized and aggregated before it is analyzed and main results are shared at the Sb Day or with authorities.

Should I participate in the campaign?

Nathalie Branche (Chair of i2a General Assembly) is very clear: *“Yes! Both producers and downstream users of Sb substances. And ideally, three companies per use of each Sb substance should participate in the campaign to gather sufficient data to document the safety of the use”*.

For uses where no measured recent occupational exposure data is provided, the exposure assessment will be based on conservative modelling approaches which assume worst-case exposure conditions and levels. **There is a risk that safe use cannot be demonstrated for such uses, and that these uses are no longer allowed on the market.**



The more companies participate, the greater the number of robust data that can be anonymized and aggregated to inform scientific and regulatory decision-making.

i2a has made available **Terms & Conditions** to inform interested parties about the general rights and obligations triggered by a participation in the campaign. Participants willing to join forces under the campaign are invited to sign and return the signed T&C to Caroline Braibant to caroline.braibant@antimony.com.

About i2a

The mission of the International Antimony Association is to inspire product stewardship along the antimony value chain. This mission is accomplished by generating and sharing information concerning the environmental and health safety and societal benefits of antimony and antimony compounds. Through a common evidence base, i2a promotes a harmonized risk management and continued safe use of antimony and antimony substances across the value chain and geographical borders.

For further information: www.antimony.com.