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Position Statement Regarding Confidentiality

Scope

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This position statement applies to exchanges of information that is owned by companies that are members of EOSCA.

Definitions

COMPONENT DATA	<i>A chemical mixture or single substance that is used in a product. Information about a product, component or substance including composition, physical properties, and environmental profile.</i>
HOCNF PRODUCT SUBSTANCE	<i>Harmonised Offshore Chemical Notification Format A chemical mixture or single substance that is sold. A chemical element or compound in the natural state or obtained by any production process, including any additive necessary to preserve the stability of the product and any impurity deriving from the process used, but excluding any solvent which may be separated without affecting the stability of the substance or changing its composition.</i>
TRADE NAME	<i>A unique brand name given by a vendor for a product. Different trade names may exist for the same product.</i>

Practice

EOSCA considers data that has been generated or commissioned by one of its member companies to be owned by that company.

Member companies give data to regulatory authorities or agencies acting on their behalf or in conjunction with them for the sole purpose of facilitating the registration of their products. The regulatory authority and their agencies should guarantee that the information will be kept strictly confidential.

Data provided for the purpose of registration is for internal use by those agencies involved in the process. Its distribution to other agencies, or departments within their organisation is not authorised, unless permission has been granted by the company that owns the data.

Data provided on the registration document (eg. HOCNF) may not be extracted in part, or full, for use in other reports or documents unless permission has been granted by the company that owns the data.

Where permission is given, the exchange of data must be kept strictly confidential between agreed parties and should not be made available within the public domain and that maintenance of this confidentiality is allowed within the Freedom of Information Act and the EC Directive 2003/4/EC on Public Access to Environmental Information.

The linking of a trade name with its component information should never be made available in the public domain without the prior consent of the company owning the data.