

9th CLEEN Conference in Oslo

On May 29 and 30 the annual conference of the European network of chemical inspectorates, CLEEN, took place in Oslo, Norway.

Two enforcement projects have been finalised and were presented at the Conference. The **e-Commerce project** identified severe cases of non-compliance with requirements for labelling, provision of safety data sheets and advertisement of dangerous chemicals sold over the internet. The need for a follow-up was recognised, and this will be undertaken within the next few years. The recent completion of the **EU REACH Enforcement Project** was also reported. This project delivered recommendations and proposals to facilitate the formation of the new Forum for the Exchange of Information on Enforcement, part of the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA) established under the European REACH Regulation.

Two other projects are currently underway:

- The **EUNICK project** investigating compliance with restrictions on the use of nickel in consumer items is now in its operational phase in almost all participating countries. Nickel allergy is the most common contact allergy, and is particularly important in skin-piercing, tattoo industries and jewellery.
- The **EuroBiocides project** had a good start at the beginning of the year. Many types of biocidal products will be investigated in 15 European countries by November 2008. Special cases such as overlaps with other legislation ('borderlines') and misleading product claims challenge the project.

The meeting also discussed the future working relationship between CLEEN and the Forum. While the Forum is responsible for facilitating REACH enforcement, CLEEN will continue its work focusing on other chemicals legislation, based on the experience of the last decade. Cooperation with the Forum is welcomed by CLEEN, and further development of this relationship will be necessary in the near future.

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