

SENSE (Solid Enforcement on New Substances in Europe, 1996-1997)

Summary

After the project on notification of new substances (NONS), in order to further strengthen and expand the European enforcement network, a second enforcement project has been carried out focusing again on the Dangerous Substances Directive, Directive 92/32/EEC. Whereas NONS concentrated on companies supplying dyestuffs, SENSE looked at companies in other sectors as well (intermediates, photochemicals, paperchemicals, only 15% of the total amount of substances checked were dyestuffs). This wider spread selection of products gave the participating countries the opportunity to make their own 'country specific' enforcement programme.

Additional to the notification provisions the classification and labelling as well as Safety Data Sheets (SDS) were checked in this project.

About 12% of the nearly 2 000 substances, checked in 100 companies, were found to be new and 95% could be identified. From the new substances 3% were not notified, meaning that they were illegally placed on the market.

Concerning the classification and labelling of dangerous substances 28% were found to be in Annex I, 75% of them were correctly classified and 58% were correctly labelled. A SDS was available in 66% of the checked products, 80% of these SDS were correct.

One third of companies visited in the European Union by enforcement authorities did not comply with the European requirements on chemical substances placed on the European market.