COMMUNICATION EXERCISE
(SOPHISTICATED TEST)
BETWEEN REMPEC AND SET/PORTO MARGHERA, ITALY
CARRIED OUT WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK
OF THE EUROPEAN CHEMICAL INDUSTRY’S
RESPONSIBLE CARE PROGRAMME (ICE)

JOINT REPORT

presented by

REMPEC
AND
SET/PORTO MARGHERA, ITALY

JUNE 2003
EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION BETWEEN REMPEC AND SET/ PORTO MARGHERA, ITALY
CARRIED OUT WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE EUROPEAN CHEMICAL INDUSTRY’S
RESPONSIBLE CARE PROGRAMME (ICE)

INTRODUCTION

1. Under the “Responsible Care Initiative”, the European chemical industry launched a co-
   operative programme called the “International Chemical Environment (ICE)”. Since
   November 1991, the programme has become an official activity of CEFIC and one of the
   areas of focus is emergency response, which is aimed at minimizing the consequences of
   transport incidents involving chemicals.

2. For the most part, implementation of emergency response is done through a National ICE
   Scheme which provides competent advice and assistance to the competent emergency
   authorities throughout a country by:
   - making use of the emergency response schemes from individual chemical
     companies;
   - building upon existing local, regional and product related emergency response
     schemes ;
   - co-operating with national Authorities through the National Chemical Industry
     Federation;
   - communicating and exchanging information with other National ICE Schemes
     operating in other countries;
   - promoting mutual assistance with the chemical industry.

3. A National Scheme is based on a register of participating companies, which voluntarily
   commit themselves to provide assistance when requested by the authorities. Within each
   scheme is a National ICE Centre, which maintains 24-hr/day cover, keeps a register of
   contacts and has access to relevant chemical data.

4. Regular exercises are carried out to test the level of preparedness of the National ICE
   Centres to provide information.

5. REMPEC has become a participant of the ICE Emergency response network and REMPEC’s
   role is to facilitate contact between the ICE Emergency Centres and Mediterranean countries
   by acting as a filter mechanism whereby requests for information from both sides are
   channelled through REMPEC.

6. Federchimica (Italian Chemical Industry Federation) manages the “Responsible Care
   Initiative” programme in Italy. Under the respective Italian National Scheme, “SET” was set-
   up, which is a voluntary initiative at national level to quickly and effectively support the
   planning of actions to be taken by the Public Authorities concerned. In fact the success of the
   operations is determined by the commitment to prevent and minimize damage to persons, the
   environment, and the property, through contacts and procedures established and tested on
   the basis of the experience already gained over four years of the operation of the system.
7. At the last CEFIC/ICE Integrating Group Meeting (Ludwigshaven, Germany, 02 October 2002) it was agreed a Communication Exercise (sophisticated test) to be carried out in April - May 2003 between REMPEC and SET/Porto Marghera. In this regard, a report of the exercise has to be circulated to CEFIC Secretariat within one month of the effective date of the test, while the respective report the “requesting” Centre of the test (REMPEC in this case) should also include the comments from the “requested” Centre.

8. By using the standard ICE “Procedure for Handling ICE Calls” (see Annex I) and the standard format for requesting chemical data (Calls information sheet) (see Annex II), information on benzene was requested. This chemical product was selected by REMPEC in order to make sure that the requested information is likely to be made available to SET/ Porto Marghera when contacting a chemical company located in Italy. Indeed, benzene appears in the inventory of bulk chemicals traded in quantities greater than 90,000 tons in 11 Italian ports during 1999 (reference is made to Mediterranean Technical Working Group’s (MTWG) biennium report 2000/2002 for Italy – Doc. REMPEC/WG.21/5/ dated 10 February 2003, Fig. 1, page 8/15).

9. The results of the sophisticated test are summarised in Annex III. Based on these results it can be concluded that all the main perquisites for the Procedures for Handling ICE Calls were satisfied during this exercise, with the exchange of information on chemical products and the provision of advice to reasonably be expected under real incident circumstances.
ANNEX I

PROCEDURE FOR HANDLING ICE CALLS

Requester: The ICE Centre requesting information

Provider: The ICE Centre contacted and providing the information

1) The requester telephones the provider using the published 24-hour telephone number and introduces him/herself as ICE Centre.

2) The requester asks the provider to verify the provider’s fax number and informs him/her that a fax will be sent.

3) The requester faxes a copy of the ICE Emergency Call Information Sheet, filled in appropriately, to the provider.

4) The provider should telephone back to the requester immediately upon receipt of the fax, to say they have received the fax and are dealing with the request. The requester should telephone back to the provider if within 10 minutes of the first call, no message has been received from the provider.

5) The provider faxes the appropriate information; (If it takes longer than 15 minutes to find the information, the provider should inform the requester by phone about this delay).

6) The provider should telephone the requester after a few minutes (approx. 5 minutes) to see if the fax has been received and everything is clear.

7) Once the incident is over the Duty Officer should complete a report giving all details of information requested, information sent and timings. He should inform the provider by phone that the exercise is over.
ICE
EMERGENCY CALL INFORMATION SHEET

Test □ real □ (tick appropriate item)

Date: May 2003 Time: 11.
Reference ES/

Scenario:

A. Information about caller requesting information

Name: Cdr. Elias Sampatakakis

Company/Organization: Regional Marine Pollution Emergency Response Centre for the Mediterranean Sea, (REMPEC)

Country: Malta

Telephone: +356 21 3372 97 Fax: +356 21 33 99 51
B. **Information about transport accident**

Product name: Benzene

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Gas ☐ Liquid ☑ Solid ☐ (tick appropriate item)

Bulk ☑ Packaged ☐ (tick appropriate item)

U.N. number (4 digits): 1114

Manufacturing company: ——

Other: ——

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C. **Information requested** (tick as many as necessary)

(Numbers refer to sections of safety data sheet)

2. Composition/Information on ingredients ☐

3. Hazards identification ☐

4. First aid measures ☐

5. Fire fighting measures ☐

6. Accidental release measures ☐

7. Personnel protection ☐

8. Physical and chemical properties ☐

9. Stability and reactivity ☐

10. Toxicological information ☐

11. Ecological information ☐

12. Disposal considerations ☐

Other:

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D. **Language of reply:** (although the usual language is English, other languages may be acceptable to the caller – circle as many as acceptable).

GB ☐ / D ☐ /

NL ☐ / E ☐ / S ☐ / FIN ☐ / F ☐ / I ☐ / P ☐ / DK ☐ / N ☐

Other: ————

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ANNEX III

Sophisticated Test report between REMPEC and the Italian National ICE Centre (SET/Porto Marghera)

At the last ICE Integration group meeting it was decided that REMPEC and the Italian National ICE Centre (SET/Porto Marghera) should do a sophisticated test.

Accomplishment of the test

The test was due to be performed over April/May 2003. The substance of choice was benzene and the information that was required was that mentioned in Part C of ICE Emergency Call Information Sheet. The Italian ICE Centre was contacted during office hours without notice in advance. Response time is counted from the moment the fax was sent by REMPEC until the reply fax with the requested information by SET/ENICHEM was received by REMPEC.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ICE Center Requester / Responder</th>
<th>Date and time for 1st call</th>
<th>Comment(s) on 1st call</th>
<th>Actual time when information requested by fax was sent</th>
<th>Actual time when confirmation call was received</th>
<th>Actual Time when Info Sheet (CSDS) was received</th>
<th>Time for “check up call”</th>
<th>Response time</th>
<th>Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>REMPEC/SET (Italy)</td>
<td>30/5 10.03 am</td>
<td>Spoke with Mr Sergio Scancelli</td>
<td>10.06 am</td>
<td>10.09 am</td>
<td>10.21 (see note)</td>
<td>10.22</td>
<td>15 minutes</td>
<td>No confirmation call.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>REMPEC/SET (Italy)</td>
<td>30/5 10.03 am</td>
<td>Spoke with Mr Sergio Scancelli</td>
<td>10.22 am (see note)</td>
<td>10.23 am</td>
<td>10.47 (see note)</td>
<td>10.48</td>
<td>25 minutes</td>
<td>(see note)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Results

The Italian ICE Centre has English speaking staff, with whom communications in English are easily understood. The actual response time was approximately 15 minutes, which is satisfactory, in terms of the ultimate goal to have a response within 30 minutes.

However, as it is explained in detail in the respective note herewith, there is a need the corresponding information to be kept up-dated, in order the latest CSDS available to be sent always.
During the check up call, it was also confirmed that the actual number of pages contained in the first Info Sheet (CSDS) were 13 instead of 16, mentioned erroneously in the cover page. The corresponding telephone and fax numbers on the “List of contact numbers of the current ICE Centres” were used during the test.

Note: The first Info Sheet (CSDS), No.1/S/E, which was received, have been issued in July 91 and revised in 1995. During the check-up call, the responder mentioned that meantime a 2002 revised Chemical Safety Data Sheet (CSDS) was found and consequently it was also transmitted to the requester.