



# Chemdata<sup>®</sup> News

## Chemdata 2017.1 update

### New user authentication system now live for iOS and Android...

The 2017.1 update of Chemdata<sup>®</sup> is ready for release. Over 890 documents have been added or updated meaning there are now over 61,600 substances listed and more than 180,000 synonyms and trade names recorded.

2017.1 is primarily a data update. We have also made changes to the user authentication system for Chemdata that will enable Pocket Chemdata<sup>®</sup> users in particular to more easily manage their licences.

We are busy working on rolling out our new user authentication system to our Windows users and plan to make that live in late spring next year.

This issue's legislation briefing reviews Hazmat 2017 and looks forward to Hazmat 2018. Book now to secure your place!

*Maria*

Chemdata Product Manager

**The newsletter for all Chemdata users, highlighting program developments and other issues of interest to emergency responders.**

### Chemsafe refresher training

NCEC is offering emergency services that use Chemdata a free\* training visit. The aim is to remind them about the use of the Chemsafe line, which is a free service at the point of use (other than phone call charges).

You may already have a training day planned or we can plan a customised visit to suit your needs. During the presentation we remind delegates of the Chemsafe scheme, explain our role and operations, and give an outline of recent changes in legislation. We discuss and provide examples of the calls we take, use Chemdata to run through some examples and exercises, and answer any questions.

The presentation is aimed at hazmat officers, fire control operators and police officers. We would encourage the attendance of any others who might find it useful (e.g. local Environment Agency representatives). We aim to visit every UK fire and rescue service once every three years, and are hoping to develop a similar visit schedule for UK police forces.

\*We may ask you to make a contribution to travel and subsistence costs. There is no charge for the training.

## The basis of Chemdata advice...

### What you should know when applying proportional advice

All advice in Chemdata is provided on the basis of an incident in the open air in good weather conditions. This enables us to provide proportional advice on a consistent basis. Smaller scale incidents may be in an enclosed space, indoors, have poor ventilation, adverse weather or any number of other factors that may affect your response to the incident and the level of PPE and precautions that are appropriate. The officer in charge must take all factors into account in their risk assessment and decide if the proportionate advice presented in Chemdata is appropriate. For example, a toxic gas in an enclosed space will be at a higher concentration than the same quantity in the open air where it will be dispersed more readily and a higher level of PPE is likely to be required.



## Proportional advice – your feedback is valued

Since the introduction of proportional advice in the 2015.2 version of Chemdata we have added proportional advice to over 550 documents. It is important to us that the advice and layout meets users' requirements and we would therefore value your feedback.

Please contact us via [ncec@ricardo.com](mailto:ncec@ricardo.com) using 'Chemdata Feedback' as your subject line.

## New Chemdata User Authentication System for Pocket Chemdata

Following the successful introduction of our new User Authentication System (UAS) for our iOS app at the end of July, Chemdata 2017.1 sees the introduction of the UAS for Android users.

Each company subscribing to Chemdata has a unique Organisation ID and can manage the format of their Device References to meet their own needs. Examples of device references can be a user's email address, their name, a device asset number or other unique identifier. The aim of the device reference is to allow administrators to easily identify devices and manage them.

This change will make it quicker and easier for you to set up new users as you will no longer need to wait for an activation key to be provided. You will also no longer need to update codes annually as devices will automatically check licence validity in the background. Pocket Chemdata customers will be reminded of their Organisation ID's shortly before the app is updated so they can ensure that their users are ready to log in.

## New training allocation

### Free to subscribers of 10 or more installations

A benefit of our new UAS management portal is that we can now offer users a free training allocation that is approximately 10% of their overall Chemdata subscriptions. This allocation is to be used solely for training purposes, either in house or when you send officers on hazmat related training and they don't already have their own copy of Chemdata.

Initially this allocation will only be able to be used on the iOS and Android apps.

## New Chemdata User Authentication System coming soon for Windows...

The new system will be integrated into all versions of Chemdata by the end of 2018 and will enable organisations to easily see how their Chemdata licences are deployed and to move licences between devices. This will help you to see exactly how all your licence allocation is deployed on your devices and ensure you are making the best use of your licence allocation. In late spring 2018 we start the roll out to Windows users.

We are consulting with third party developers that provide MDT systems and Command & Control systems to ensure that the new UAS works smoothly on these devices. We appreciate that some users install Chemdata on devices without an internet connection or with restricted access, therefore configurable options for authentication will be provided for these users. More information will be provided shortly before roll out.

Once fully rolled out and implemented by our users this new system will provide users with greater flexibility to manage their devices and provide us with feedback on the platforms in use and the ability to make available customer features to specific organisations or groups of organisations.

## Hazmat 2017 review

For the 10<sup>th</sup> year running, the National Chemical Emergency Centre's (NCEC) Hazmat event brought together a wide cross-section of professionals working in hazmat and chemical incident response to discuss the latest developments in industry.

This year's conference returned to the Crowne Plaza, Stratford-upon-Avon on 24 and 25 May for a packed programme of interactive discussions, practical workshops and training scenarios. The programme featured 15 different parallel sessions delivered by 18 expert speakers from a range of sectors and organisations, including the UKLNG, the Environment Agency, the National Operational Guidance Programme, Tactical Hazmat and BASF.

The conference was opened by event Chairman and NCEC Director, Jonathan Gibbard, followed by keynote talks from Dave Walton, CFOA Hazmat Lead at West Yorkshire Fire & Rescue Service, and Roman Sykora, CTIF Hazmat Group Lead at Vienna Fire Department. Citing recent events, Dave Walton, commended the calm and professional response of the emergency response teams who responded to the Manchester Arena bombing in May, and led delegates in a poignant minute's applause in honour of the victims of the incident.

As in previous years, following the opening talks, the event kicked-off in earnest with 2 sets of parallel sessions. Delegates had the choice of attending concurrent sessions on a range of topics, including interactive talks on laboratory hazards, a guidance toolkit on responding to hazardous incidents, an overview of the hazards associated with liquefied natural gas and a talk on emergency response planning.

Following lunch, the afternoon featured another two rounds of parallel workshop sessions on hazard categorisation and practical hazmat awareness, in addition to interactive scenarios on environmental protection and hazmat response. For the more adventurous, a practical workshop on foam provided an opportunity for delegates to literally 'get stuck in' to the subject matter.

The first day wrapped up with a conference dinner, providing an opportunity for delegates to socialise with peers and discuss the day's proceedings in between a trio of courses and evening drinks.

Day 2 followed a similar pattern, with 3 rounds of parallel sessions running throughout the morning. Topics covered included carbon dioxide incidents caused by fire extinguishing systems, Emergency Pre-Incident Planning, LPG Fuel Vehicles, COMAH, Dangerous Goods Enforcement and a real-life case study of a Wetteren rail car incident involving acrylonitrile.

The conference concluded with a facilitated discussion on the future of hazmat response and what challenges lay ahead, led by NCEC's Dan Haggarty and a panel of guest speakers.

With the conference now at an end, organisers have already turned their attention to planning next year's event - set to return to the Crowne Plaza in Stratford-upon-Avon on 23 and 24 May 2018.

Attendee feedback following the event has been highly positive and with growing attendee numbers, year on year, the Hazmat conference looks set to continue its dominance of the annual event calendar, cementing its position as *THE* premier event for hazmat professionals.



*"An essential forum to engage with colleagues of other services to acquire knowledge from the sharing of experiences."* William Maher, Dublin Fire Brigade.



*"Excellent variation of topics covered - something there for all. Friendly & welcoming with great networking opportunities."* Michael Pearson, County Durham and Darlington Fire & Rescue Service.



*"The vast experience amongst the presenters. The talks were very well put together, and aimed at the right level."* Colin Winterbottom, Derbyshire Fire & Rescue Service.



# Hazmat 2018

## When and where?

23 and 24 May 2018 at Crowne Plaza, Stratford-upon-Avon.  
 Super early bird rate (available until 31 October 2017) = £640 plus VAT  
 Early bird rate (1 November 2017 - 31 January 2018) = £690 plus VAT  
 Standard rate (from 1 February 2018) = £765 plus VAT  
 Accommodation for 22 May 2018 (Bed & Breakfast) = £85 plus VAT

For more information, please visit <https://the-ncec.com/emergency-response/hazmat-event>



The Hazmat annual conference is the ultimate forum for hazmat specialists to share experiences and gain knowledge. Now in its 11<sup>th</sup> year, Hazmat continues to provide the opportunity to network with like-minded professionals working in the hazmat and chemical-incident industry. For our 11<sup>th</sup> year we

will, by popular demand, be returning to picturesque Stratford-upon-Avon. We are again planning on hosting meetings at the venue prior to the event with two awaiting final confirmation. If you are interested in holding your own regional or subgroup meeting at the Crowne Plaza prior to the conference please contact us as soon as possible.

In response to delegate feedback gathered at previous events Hazmat 2018 will again incorporate interactive workshops on a cross-section of subjects as part of the two day conference. Delegates will have the opportunity to register for specific workshops nearer the event, once the topics have been finalised and synopses released. Workshops are likely to include the ever popular Wet Chemistry practical, a session on 'Corrosives – neutralise, dilute, contain?', a scenario or exercise and a detailed case study from a UK fire and rescue service.

Within the parallel sessions we will be addressing the topics of corrosive attacks, fentanyl, the legal/investigation implications when attending CBRNe incidents, BLEVEs, alternative fuels such as hydrogen and further case studies.

Also returning for 2018 will be the popular pre-conference barbeque on the evening of 22 May for all delegates staying that night. We have put in an order for a repeat of the glorious weather we had this year but there are no guarantees!



Book now to secure your place!