



Chemdata® News

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

Chemdata 2020.1 update

Chemdata in the time of Covid-19...

The 2020.1 update of Chemdata® is finally ready for release. It has been a while since the last main release and we have been working hard on fixing a few bugs and improving the Android app.

The 2019.1a release made earlier this year squashed a few bugs that were only affecting a few users but didn't include any data updates. The 2020.1 release includes ADR 2021 data, updates to EAC codes and the updated ERG data for initial isolation and protective action distances.

The 2020.1 update contains over 61,700 documents with more than 185,800 names and synonyms. About 200 documents have been edited or added.

Wishing everyone a much happier and healthier 2021!

Maria

Chemdata Product Manager

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 also discuss and provide examples of the calls we take.

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.

Updated data

ADR 2021, IIPAD, OELs, IDHL

Documents have been updated to reflect ADR 2021 and new documents added for the new UN numbers.

Following the release of the Emergency Response Guide 2020 we have updated the Initial Isolation and Protective Action Distance data on relevant documents.

OELs for the UK, Australia and New Zealand have been updated to reflect current legislation up to November 2020.

IDLH values for Bromine Trifluoride, Chlorine Trifluoride and Ethylene Dibromide have been updated.



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. In 2019 we introduced the Chemdata User Authentication System (UAS) for all platforms. It is important to us that Chemdata data and usability meets users' requirements and we would therefore value your feedback on these developments and any more that you would like to see in the future.

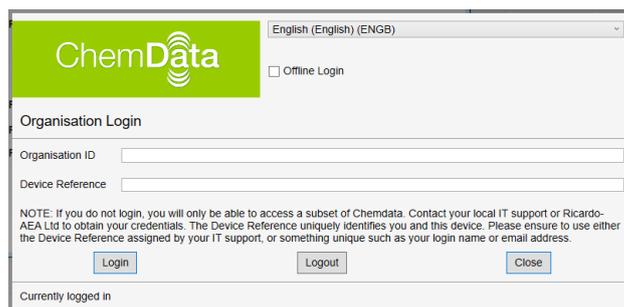
Please contact us via ncec@ricardo.com using 'Chemdata Feedback' as your subject line.

Chemdata User Authentication System

Following the successful introduction of our new User Authentication System for all versions of Chemdata last year, we have seen many of you adopt the latest version of the software.

We have been working with our API developer partners to improve log in processes for MDTs. These partners are now able to utilise methods to carry out the login via JSON calls where a direct internet connection is not available. This should mean for most MDT users it is possible to install the software, login and have silent background licence revalidations therefore not needing any further manual intervention from IT teams.

The latest phase of work is focussed on providing in app data updates for our Android app (due Spring 2021) and in program data updates for our Windows program (due Winter 2021). This functionality will enable speedier rollout of data updates to devices saving IT teams time and ensuring users have access to the latest data. Already available in our iOS app this functionality identifies during the background licence check if a data update is available for your device and separately provides you with the option to download the update and then to install the update at a convenient time.



New training allocation

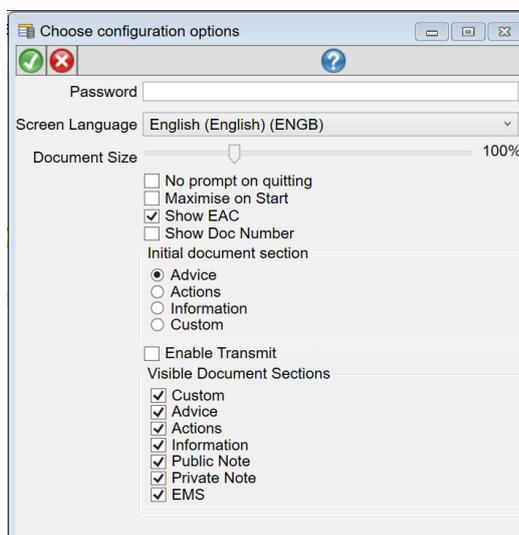
Free to subscribers of 10 or more installations

A benefit of our new UAS management portal is we can now offer users a free training allocation (approximately 10% of your 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 (must be on a device owned by the licenced organisation or its employees).

This allocation can be used on all UAS standard Windows, Android and iOS versions of Chemdata.

New font size options

Earlier in 2020 we issued version 2019.1a which provided some bug fixes relating to text size on documents and Chemdata's ability to recognise some proxy servers. These changes are now in the main Chemdata release.



Some users had experienced exceptionally small font sizes on Chemdata documents. In most cases this issue appeared following a Windows update.

Our solution includes the ability to independently alter the relative size of the Chemdata document text from the Chemdata File > Options menu. This allows you to scale from 25% to 300% to achieve a comfortable level of scaling for you.