

# BDO & Derivatives Sector Group

Brussels, 20 September 2013

The CEFIC BDO and Derivatives Sector Group would like to update you on the new classification for Tetrahydrofuran (THF) as a suspected human carcinogen.

In a previous letter last year, we informed you that on July 10, 2012 revisions to THF's classification and labeling were published in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Adaptation to Technical Progress (ATP) to the EU Classification, Labeling and Packaging Regulation EC No 1272/2008 (CLP), where THF was assigned a harmonised classification as a suspected human carcinogen category 2. This is the least severe classification, after category 1A and 1B, and as such THF is not a candidate substance for SVHC listing.

The new classification will apply from December 1, 2013. After this date THF (and mixtures containing  $\geq 1.0\%$  THF) will need to carry the new 'H351 – Suspected of causing cancer' hazard statement and an additional hazard pictogram (GHS08) on the product label.

The members of the CEFIC BDO and Derivatives Sector Group will all revise their Safety Data Sheets and labeling for THF latest by November 15, 2013. In addition, you may want to prepare internally or communicate with your downstream users to prepare for this upcoming change.

Below the full classification and labeling for THF as published in the 3<sup>rd</sup> ATP:

## **Classification:**

Flammable Liquids, Category 2  
Carcinogenicity, Category 2  
Eye Irritation, Category 2  
Specific Target Organ Toxicity - Single Exposure, Category 3

## **Labeling:**

H225 Highly flammable liquid and vapour  
H351 Suspected of causing cancer  
H319 Causes serious eye irritation  
H335 May cause respiratory irritation  
EUH019 May form explosive peroxides

## **Specific concentration limits:**

Specific Target Organ Toxicity Single Exposure Category 3; H335: C  $\geq 25\%$   
Eye Irritation Category 2; H319: C  $\geq 25\%$



The CEFIC BDO and Derivatives Sector Group will continue to advocate that the appropriate science be considered as THF is further evaluated under REACH. The Sector Group believes that vital toxicology information submitted as part of the REACH dossier for THF which would support a non-classification for carcinogenicity, was not duly considered in the harmonized classification and labeling process.

