



OECD WORKING GROUP ON CHEMICAL ACCIDENTS (WGCA)

Progress and highlights

*Inter Agency Meeting on Industrial and
Chemical Accidents – 29 May 2018, Cardiff*



OECD Guidance on Ownership Change in Hazardous Facilities

Guidance on Change
of Ownership in
Hazardous Facilities



Launch Webinar:
***OECD Guidance on Change of
Ownership in Hazardous Facilities***

Monday 11 June 2018
2 pm (Paris time) / 8 am (EST)

[Register](#) to hook into the LIVEstream
OECD



Goal of the Guidance

- Provide a framework to assist stakeholders to **identify, understand** and **minimise** the risks before, during and after a change of ownership at a hazardous facility;
- It aims to help make the change of ownership a better informed process.



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CHARACTERISTICS OF GOOD OWNERSHIP CHANGE



SAYING NO

Deciding not to take over a premises or facility following an assessment of the risks, plant integrity and responsibilities.



OPENNESS

A willingness by all parties to share openly all information relating to the hazards and systems to manage them even if it could affect the transaction.



COMPETENCE

Experience of the new owners both in the management of major accident hazards and in the chemicals and processes in the facility.



BUY IN

Acceptance, commitment and enthusiasm by the retained personnel for the change of ownership.



MOTIVATION

Positive reasons for the disposal and acquisition of the facilities.



TIME

Time to study, review and assess the plant, people and processes prior to committing to take over the facility.



SMOOTH TRANSITION

Progressive and orderly change to new management systems building upon what works and is good practice.



MANAGEMENT OF CHANGE

The ownership change process has been subject to formal review under both the disposing and acquiring companies.



UNDERSTANDING

An understanding of the risks and hazards by the current owner and a similar understanding by the prospective owners before they acquire the facilities.



CONTINUITY

The retention of knowledge, key personnel and effective management systems.



INVESTMENT

Investment in people, time, effort and plant before during and after the change.



Format of a checklist: Questions and Tips

Self-assessment questions for the current owner

The current owner needs to focus on their legal responsibilities to hand over a facility and site with the potential for a major accident which could harm the workforce, the surrounding factories, people living nearby and the environment. The checklist gives a series of pointers to fulfilling their responsibilities. These may be more easily fulfilled if the facility has been openly offered for sale, and more difficult with a hostile takeover where there has been little time or incentive to prepare.

Planning phase				
01	Have you determined which information you should provide to the prospective new owner to assure continuity in the safety of operation as well as any necessary documentation to comply with the relevant legislation? ➤ a. Have you reviewed this information to make sure it is complete and up to date? ➤ b. Have you made sure this information will be provided in a way that will be easy for the prospective new owner to review? TIPS You can look at the template for transparency on page 34 for a detailed list of documents that you would want to share with the new owner.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
02	Have you arranged a meeting with the prospective new owner to discuss relevant issues and provide them with any necessary information and documentation?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
03	Have you arranged for a site visit with the prospective new owner with opportunity to discuss with the operator and technicians?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



Format of a checklist: key points to consider

Make sure to:



1. Summarise the identified gaps above and develop a plan for closing them.



2. Develop a plan and timetable for the handover of documentation and processes (you can refer to the template for transparency).



3. If needed, bring the facility up to minimum standards or prepare a list of defects, maintenance backlogs and outstanding issues.



4. Agree on succession planning for key personnel with the new owner.



Guidance on the Benefits of Regulations for Chemical Accidents Prevention, Preparedness and Response

- Guidance providing:
 - a **framework with agreed-upon quantitative and qualitative benefits;**
 - a common-language for communicating with decision makers.
- First draft Guidance to be discussed at the next Working Group Meeting, October 2018

Steering Group: Canada (lead), Korea, United Kingdom, New Zealand, Colombia, UNECE.



Revision of the 2nd Edition of the OECD Guiding Principles

- An update of the main references in the Guiding Principles (to the Seveso III Directive, the 2nd version of the APELL Handbook of UNEP);
- The inclusion of the published addenda to the Principles into the text;
- The inclusion of the work done by the WGCA since the last revision of the Guiding Principles;
- Restructure and/or rephrase the Principles to meet current needs of users.



- **UN/OECD Workshop on Natech Risk Management, 5 to 7 September 2018 in Potsdam, Germany, at the Kongress Hotel - <http://www.kongresshotel-potsdam.de>;**
- Information exchange between OECD Member and Non-Members for sharing good practices and examine how Natech risks can be better integrated in risk management, emergency planning, disaster management and risk communication;
- Natech risk management in light of sustainable development and climate change adaptation will also be explored;
- More information about the event can also be found on the workshop website at <http://www.natech-workshop.de>;

Steering Group: Czech Republic, France, Germany (chair), Japan, Netherlands, Switzerland, United Kingdom, European Union (EC-JRC), the Joint UNEP/OCHA Environment Unit (Co-Chair), UNEP, UNECE, the EEB.



Natech Workshop – *Programme Overview*

- **Session 1:** Natech risk management in industry: Understanding Natech risks, Natech risk analysis, Natech risk reduction and communication
- **Session 2:** Natural hazards identification, information and communication
- **Session 3:** Consideration of climate change in Natech risk management, consideration of Natech risks in adaptation to climate change
- **Session 4:** Natural hazard (early) warning systems, Natech emergency planning, preparedness and response (of operators and authorities)
- **Session 5:** Follow-up on events, event analysis, recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction (“Build-back-better”)
- **Session 6:** Transboundary and international cooperation
- **Session 7:** Natech risk management in the public sector: Natech Risk Governance, Regulation, Enforcement, and Reduction



Next WGCA Meeting

**28th WGCA meeting -23-25 October
2018, OECD Headquarters, Paris.**



**Special Session on Chemical Accidents Prevention,
Preparedness and Response in Latin America**





Special Session with Latin America

- **Session I:** Setting National Programmes for Chemical Accident in Prevention, Preparedness and Response in light of the OECD Council Acts;
- **Session II:** Engaging with Industry – Prevention, preparedness and response to accidents;
- **Session III:** *Collecting and sharing information on accidents* - Presentations of accidents case studies;
- **Session IV:** International collaboration;
- **Session V:** *Open Discussion Session*



Thank you !

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<http://www.oecd.org/env/ehs/>

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