

Zaandam, 24<sup>th</sup> November, 2011

Dear Sir/Madam,

This year, as in previous years, we hereby send you an invoice for your contribution to the VGT (Association of Dental suppliers in the Netherlands) system regarding material safety data sheets (MSDS).

In the covering letter of the invoice regarding 2004 we have already sent you an extensive statement, and for this reason we will not address this any further here. Should you no longer possess the 2004 statement then you can check it on our website via:

[http://www.vgt.nl/downloads/pdf/msds\\_2004\\_uk.pdf](http://www.vgt.nl/downloads/pdf/msds_2004_uk.pdf)

### **What has happened in the Netherlands in 2005 and 2006 regarding hazardous substances?**

In April 2005, on behalf of all Dutch inter-branch organisations in the dental sector (VGT, NMT, ONT, VLHT, BVT and INDENT) the VGT signed the Substances Agreement with the Ministry of Social Affairs and Employment.

You can find the newsletter of the Ministry regarding this subject on the Ministry website:

[http://docs.minszw.nl/pdf/158/2005/158\\_2005\\_5\\_2512.pdf](http://docs.minszw.nl/pdf/158/2005/158_2005_5_2512.pdf)

Furthermore, the above stated inter-branch organisations drew up a contract with the Ministry in 2005 in order to develop a trade-specific Stoffenmanager (substance manager) within the framework of the VASSt-project (VASSt stands for Strengthening Labour-conditions policy Substances), in order to optimize the information regarding the use of hazardous products for the end-user.

For more information about the VASSt-project we are happy to refer you to the Ministry website at <http://www.arboportaal.nl/onderwerpen/gevaarlijke-stoffen/gevaarlijke-stoffen> and the dental-site <http://www.arboportaal.nl/types/brochure/tandheekkundige-branche.html>

### **What changed after 2007?**

In any case, the inter-branch specific Dental Stoffenmanager was delivered. All end-users can access this via <http://www.dentalstoffenmanager.nl>.

In this Dental Stoffenmanager the information from the MSDS is combined with the 'exposure' component in order to optimize the risk assessment and the end-user can produce the corresponding workplace instruction card.

Via the Dental Stoffenmanager it is also possible to create the legally obligatory "Register of Hazardous Substances". Joint applicants of the Dental Stoffenmanager per 16-11-2011 -> 2.329.

In addition to that, requesting the Dutch MSDS which complies with the European Directive 91/155 was moved to the software Publichem <http://www.publichem.nl>

The reason for this was that Publichem, as far as software is concerned, is multi-lingual. Publichem registers the end-users and the information they have requested for whichever product. During the adjustment of information regarding that product, we can directly inform the end-users who have downloaded the safety data sheet on that specific product about this adjustment, by email.

As we announced in the 2010 information letter, you can find information regarding the number of end-users (per 16-11-2011 -> 817) that use Publichem and the number of safety-information pages of your products which have been downloaded by the end-users in the appendix.

Meanwhile a number of manufacturers are making use of the B-regulation. For this, only the data of their products that are necessary for the Dental Stoffenmanager is incorporated into our system and the original safety-information page is linked via the software to the corresponding product in Publichem. For manufacturers which are not making use of this a page is created containing the VGT layout of the supplied data.

**The REACH-REGULATION (EC) No. 1907/2006.**

As is known, the 1907/2006 REACH regulation has become effective and the (former) 91/155/EC Directive has been annulled, while legislation regarding MSDS has been incorporated into the REACH regulation in Article 31 to 36 inclusive.

Both websites regarding requesting MSDS ([www.publichem.nl](http://www.publichem.nl)) and the risk assessment of the use of products with hazardous substances ([www.dentalstoffenmanager.nl](http://www.dentalstoffenmanager.nl)) comply with the requirements as set out in the REACH regulation.

**Downloading of user manuals and information letter.**

In case you would like to search the Dental Stoffenmanager and/or Publichem yourself for the data of your products we advise you to **first** download the corresponding user manual(s). You can access them via:

[http://www.vgt.nl/downloads/pdf/gebruikershandleiding\\_dsm\\_2010.pdf](http://www.vgt.nl/downloads/pdf/gebruikershandleiding_dsm_2010.pdf)

or

[http://www.vgt.nl/downloads/pdf/gebruikershandleiding\\_publichem\\_2010.pdf](http://www.vgt.nl/downloads/pdf/gebruikershandleiding_publichem_2010.pdf)

The digital version of this information letter is available via:

[http://www.vgt.nl/downloads/pdf/msds\\_2011\\_uk.pdf](http://www.vgt.nl/downloads/pdf/msds_2011_uk.pdf)

**What do we expect from you?**

We would like to receive your payment of the enclosed invoice within the stated period.

Furthermore we request that you THOROUGHLY check that:

- the information of the MSDS that we have incorporated, regarding content, (is still) correct, and to let us know if modifications concerning content in the product have taken place;
- we have indeed received the information of all products with hazardous substances which have been introduced onto the Dutch market, and if such is not the case, to send us the information via e-mail ([stoffenmanager@vgt.nl](mailto:stoffenmanager@vgt.nl));
- products have meanwhile been removed from the range. Please note that there may be some products still in the trade chain and for this reason this product information can not (yet) be removed.

We trust to have informed you sufficiently with this correspondence.

With kind regards,



E.T.J. Kolsteeg  
secretary VGT

Appendices:

- summary of 2011 cost calculation
- overview of the products of your company in the VGT information system
- overview of participating manufacturers
- overview of your company's products which have been downloaded by the end-users via Publichem
- invoice for your contribution during the period 01-01-2011 up to and including 31-12-2011.