

Press Release

DEKRA experts help with chemical exports

Chemicals Often Wrongly Labeled

Cross-border trade in chemicals presents companies with major problems. DEKRA experts have drawn this conclusion from the recent inspection project of the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA). Two thirds of imported chemicals were incorrectly labeled.

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Customs and market surveillance authorities from 16 countries jointly monitored compliance with chemical rules for mixtures and articles. One major finding was that almost two thirds (64 percent) of imported chemicals had defective labels. As part of the project, 167 products were checked for compliance with classification, labeling, and packaging rules under the CLP Regulation (EU Regulation no. 1272/2008).

In the vast majority of cases, the labeling was incorrect, for instance because it was not written in the national language. Furthermore, H-phrases were often missing from the hazardous substance data or contained errors. Pictograms were frequently missing or incorrect, too. Around 20 percent of the defects involved wrong classification of the mixture.

This suggests to the DEKRA experts that cross-border trade in chemicals often overburdens those involved: The exporter is less familiar with the chemical rules of the destination country, and the importer often has less specialist knowledge than a formulator. In addition, the results show that the authorities are very keen for the label to be written in the national language.

DEKRA has been helping companies to comply with chemical rules for over 30 years. DEKRA prepares classifications, safety data sheets, and labels for chemicals. Furthermore, DEKRA advises on the marketability of products manufactured outside the EU.

www.dekra.de/de/chemikalienhandel/

About DEKRA

DEKRA has been active in the field of safety for more than 90 years. Founded in 1925 in Berlin as Deutscher Kraftfahrzeug-Überwachungs-Verein e.V., it is today one of the world's leading expert organizations. DEKRA SE is a subsidiary of DEKRA e.V. and manages the Group's operating business. In 2019, DEKRA generated sales totaling 3.4 billion euros. The company currently employs almost 44,000 people in approximately 60 countries on all six continents. With qualified and

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independent expert services, they work for safety on the road, at work and at home. These services range from vehicle inspection and expert appraisals to claims services, industrial and building inspections, safety consultancy, testing and certification of products and systems, as well as training courses and temporary work. The vision for the company's 100th birthday in 2025 is that DEKRA will be the global partner for a safe world.