REENESSES TO THE ENVIRONMENT FROM THE USE OF PRODUCTS

Nordic PRTR Group
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RELEASES TO THE ENVIRONMENT FROM THE USE OF PRODUCTS

Nordic PRTR Group projects since 2004

- Focus on direct releases to the environment
- Support OECD PRTR TF work on products
- Funding from the Nordic Council of Ministers
- Collection & updating of existing information
- Work with release estimation techniques

OECD ENV/JM/MONO(2011)7
Building and construction products
Electrical and electronic products
Furniture
Nanoproducts
Packages and plastic bags
Pesticides
Pharmaceuticals, personal care and cleaning products
Textile and leather products
Toys and low-cost jewellery
RELEASES TO THE ENVIRONMENT FROM THE USE OF PRODUCTS

CHALLENGES

- Lack of information of chemicals in products
- Same products all over the world
- Product life-cycle divided between different parts of the world
- Legislation for products not harmonized
- Releases travel around the world
- Product use and release patterns differ around the world
- Direct releases to the environment occur where
  - no organized waste management/water handling
  - products maintained/kept/used in direct contact with the environment
RELEASES FROM THE USE PHASE OF PRODUCTS
NOT COVERED BY REGULAR REPORTING

Routine inventories rare - lack of information and data to quantify releases
RELEASES TO THE ENVIRONMENT FROM THE USE OF PRODUCTS
CURRENT KNOWLEDGE

Chemicals enter the environment
- directly or
- through waste handling processes

Routine emission inventories rare and have large differences
(actual and methodological)

Examples of direct releases
Buildings - air, water, soil
Car & boat care products – air, water, soil
Fishing gear - water
Treated wood – air, water, soil
Cosmetics - air

Hg emissions to air from the use of measurement and control equipment in the Nordic countries in 2007 (different calculation methods)
TRENDS

Norwegian estimates based on use of chemical products (Nordic Product Registers, SPIN)

- Releases of environmentally hazardous chemicals increasing
- Hazardous chemicals may be replaced with others with (more) hazardous properties
- New chemicals and products enter the market every year

Hazardous chemical releases 2002-2010 (Klif, Norway) *

Change in use and releases of chemicals hazardous to health & the environment 2009-2010 (Statistics Norway), 1000 t/t

*excludes articles such as textiles, electronics, pharmaceuticals
RELEASSESTO THE ENVIRONMENT FROM THE USE OF PRODUCTS

INFORMATION GAPS

- Chemical content of products (chemicals, quantities)
- Real world measurements of releases during the use of products
- Statistical data on product groups

Understanding of direct chemical releases is currently limited to few individual products and chemicals.
THANK YOU

You are warmly welcome to contact 
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