



Agreed in TM II 08

Ispra, 01/04/2008

**HEEG opinion on the Use of ConsExpo
for the Exposure Assessment for Professional Users**

1) Background

A question arose during the assessment of professional exposure for disinfectants. Therefore FIN asked the HEEG if the ConsExpo models can be used for the assessment of professional exposure.

In the Disinfectant Products Fact Sheet of ConsExpo (p.11), it is stated that the models in ConsExpo and the default values are presented for consumers. It is nonetheless possible to calculate the exposure and uptake of disinfectant products for professional users. Of course, the differences in products and product use between the consumer and those using disinfectant products professionally must be taken into account.

2) Opinion of the HEEG

In principle, the approach for the exposure estimation starts with the TNsG version 2, wherein in the computerised database BEAT (and to some extent additionally in the text) the various models are made available.

It is likely that the TNsG/User Guidance (version 2) might not have data for the assessment of some disinfectant uses for professionals and therefore exposure may need to be assessed with the use of alternative models.

ConsExpo allows the adaptation of the default values to assess exposure of professional users. The choices of the default values may be critical. The basic differences between professional and consumer/non-professional users are:

(a) Professionals are likely to use products for longer periods and more frequently than consumers/non-professionals. In addition, are often packaged differently for the professional and the non-professional markets.

(b) Professionals can use PPE to reduce exposure whereas consumers/non-professionals will not;

(c) Professionals will be trained in the use of biocides and will be more likely to obey label instructions and apply the product more carefully.

If these factors are taken into account when using the ConsExpo models/data then the ConsExpo can be adapted, where appropriate, to assess professional exposure.

The TM is asked for its opinion on the above mentioned proposal