

## **Biocidal Products Committee (BPC)**

Opinion on the application for approval of the active substance:

**Formaldehyde released from the reaction products of  
paraformaldehyde and 2-hydroxypropylamine (ratio 3:2)**

**Product type: 13**

ECHA/BPC/429/2024

Adopted

29 May 2024

**BPC**  
BIOCIDAL PRODUCTS  
COMMITTEE



## Opinion of the Biocidal Products Committee

### on the application for approval of the active substance Reaction products of para-formaldehyde and 2-hydroxypropylamine (ratio 3:2) for product type 13

In accordance with Article 89(1) of Regulation (EU) No 528/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council 22 May 2012 concerning the making available on the market and use of biocidal products (BPR), the Biocidal Products Committee (BPC) has adopted this opinion on the approval in product type 13 of the following active substance:

<b>Common name:</b>	<b>Formaldehyde released from the reaction products of paraformaldehyde and 2-hydroxypropylamine (ratio 3:2);</b>  <b>RP 3:2</b>
<b>Chemical name:</b>	<b>Reaction products of paraformaldehyde and 2-hydroxypropylamine (ratio 3:2)</b>
<b>EC No.:</b>	<b>not applicable</b>
<b>CAS No.:</b>	<b>not applicable</b>
<b>Existing active substance</b>	

This document presents the opinion adopted by the BPC, having regard to the conclusions of the evaluating Competent Authority. The assessment report, as a supporting document to the opinion, contains the detailed grounds for the opinion.

### Process for the adoption of the BPC opinion

Following the submission of an application by Task Force Lubrizol Deutschland GmbH and Schülke & Mayr GmbH. on 1 August 2007, the evaluating Competent Authority Austria submitted an assessment report and the conclusions of its evaluation to the European Chemicals Agency on 29 September 2016. In order to review the assessment report and the conclusions of the evaluating Competent Authority, the Agency organised consultations via the BPC (BPC-21) and its Working Groups (WG-II-2017). Revisions agreed upon were presented and the assessment report and the conclusions were amended accordingly.

Information on the fulfilment of the conditions for considering the active substance as a candidate for substitution was made publicly available <https://echa.europa.eu/de/addressing-chemicals-of-concern/biocidal-products-regulation/potential-candidates-for-substitution-previous-consultations/-/substance-rev/15204/term> on 4 November 2016, in accordance with the requirements of Article 10(3)

of Regulation (EU) No 528/2012. Interested third parties were invited to submit relevant information by 3 January 2017.

In May 2018 a request from the Commission according to Article 75(1)(g) of Regulation (EU) No 528/2012 to the BPC regarding an ED-assessment according to the scientific criteria set out in Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2017/2100 was forwarded by ECHA to the eCA. Therefore, the evaluation of "RP 3:2" was amended accordingly with an ED-assessment based on the available data. The revised evaluation report including the ED assessment was submitted on 15 September 2021 in ECHA Process flow 43 (WG-I-2022 and BPC-43) for review and discussion and the BPC Opinion was adapted accordingly (ECHA/BPC/338/2022).

In accordance to CA-March 15-Doc.5.1-Final the active substance was renamed in May 2023 to "formaldehyde released from the reaction products of paraformaldehyde and 2-hydroxypropylamine (ratio 3:2)".

A request (Art. 75 (1) (g) of Regulation (EU) No 528/2012) by the Commission was received by ECHA on 17<sup>th</sup> February 2023 on the evaluation of the availability and suitability of alternatives to formaldehyde released from the reaction products of paraformaldehyde and 2-hydroxypropylamine (ratio 1:1) and (ratio 3:2) [in short: RP 1:1 and RP 3:2] for PT 2,6, 11, 12 (only RP 3:2) and 13. The BPC appointed AT as the rapporteur at its 46<sup>th</sup> meeting on 1 March 2023. The rapporteur presented the draft opinion to the BPC at its 48<sup>th</sup> and 49<sup>th</sup> meetings on 15 September and 23 November 2023, respectively. Following the adoption of the opinion at the BPC meeting of 23 November 2023, the opinion was amended accordingly and delivered by ECHA to the Commission (final opinion: ECHA/BPC/405/2023).

In July 2023 the Commission requested the examination of efficacy tier 2 data on specific active substances acting as preservatives (PT 6-13) under Article 75(1)(g) of Regulation (EU) No 528/2012 as efficacy at tier 2 may not have been appropriately examined. The Commission requested the Agency to provide revised opinions on these active substances for the concerned product-types. The underlying mandate was forwarded by ECHA to the eCA. In order to address the necessity of requesting additional data, the eCA asked the member states (WG IV-2023) if the already available data can be considered as tier 2 and if further testing can be omitted. Based on the conclusions made in the EFF WG, the opinion was revised accordingly. The revised version was harmonised at WG-I-2024.

## Adoption of the BPC opinion

### Rapporteur: Austria

The BPC opinion on the approval of the active substance reaction products of paraformaldehyde and 2-hydroxy-propylamine (ratio 3:2) in product type 13 was adopted on 29 May 2024.

The BPC opinion takes into account the comments of interested third parties provided in accordance with Article 10(3) of BPR.

The BPC opinion was adopted by consensus. The opinion is published on the ECHA webpage at: <http://echa.europa.eu/regulations/biocidal-products-regulation/approval-of-active-substances/bpc-opinions-on-active-substance-approval>.

## Detailed BPC opinion and background

### 1. Overall conclusion

Since RP 3:2 fulfils the criteria set in Article 5(1) of Regulation (EU) No 528/2012, the overall conclusion of the BPC is that RP 3:2 in product type 13 should normally not be approved, unless one of the conditions for derogation in Article 5(2) is met. The process related to the demonstration of whether the conditions for derogation set in Article 5(2) are met, is not in the remit of the BPC<sup>1</sup>. The detailed grounds for the overall conclusion are described in the assessment report.

### 2. BPC Opinion

#### 2.1. BPC Conclusions of the evaluation

##### a) Presentation of the active substance including the classification and labelling of the active substance

This evaluation covers the use of Reaction products of paraformaldehyde and 2-hydroxypropylamine (ratio 3:2), furthermore addressed as RP 3:2 in product type 13. RP 3:2 was originally notified as 3,3'-methylene-bis(5-methyl-oxazolidine) – MBO2. RP 3:2 is a formaldehyde-releaser. Specifications for the reference source are established.

The physico-chemical properties of the active substance and biocidal product have been evaluated and are deemed acceptable for the appropriate use and materials suitable for storage and transport of the active substance and biocidal product. Regarding the explosive properties the justification for non-submission of data has not been accepted. An experimental test has to be conducted as the substance contains of unknown constituents and therefore the waiving cannot be justified by structural considerations.

Validated analytical methods are available for the active substance as manufactured and for the relevant and significant impurities. With regard to the methods submitted for determination of the hydrolysis product 2-hydroxypropylamin in water and soil the data has been considered as not sufficient. The classification and labelling for RP 3:2 according to Regulation (EC) No 1272/2008 (CLP Regulation) as agreed by RAC-35 (December 2015)<sup>3</sup> and published in Regulation (EC) No 2017/776 (10<sup>th</sup> adaption to technical progress):

Classification according to the CLP Regulation	
Hazard Class and Category Codes	Acute Tox. 4, H302 Acute Tox. 3, H311 Acute Tox. 4, H332 Skin Corr. 1B, H314 Skin Sens. 1A, H317 Eye dam. 1, H318 STOT RE 2, H373 Muta 2, H341* Carc. 1B, H350*

<sup>1</sup> See document: Further guidance on the procedures related to the examination of the exclusion criteria and the conditions for derogation under Article 5(2) (CA-Nov14-Doc.4.5-Final).

<sup>2</sup> The renaming of 3,3'-methylene-bis(5-methyl-oxazolidine) – MBO into Reaction products of paraformaldehyde and 2-hydroxypropylamine (ratio 3:2) is not regarded as a redefinition according to Article 11 of Regulation (EU) No 1062/2014.

<sup>3</sup> [https://echa.europa.eu/documents/10162/13579/clh\\_hpt\\_odd\\_en.pdf](https://echa.europa.eu/documents/10162/13579/clh_hpt_odd_en.pdf)

	Aquatic Chronic 2, H411
	<p>* The classification as a mutagen need not apply if it can be shown that the maximum theoretical concentration of releasable formaldehyde, irrespective of the source, in the mixture as placed on the market is less than 1%.</p> <p>** The classification as a carcinogen need not apply if it can be shown that the maximum theoretical concentration of releasable formaldehyde, irrespective of the source, in the mixture as placed on the market is less than 0.1%.</p>
<b>Labelling</b>	
Pictograms	GHS 05, GHS 06, GHS 08, GHS 09
Signal Word	Danger
Hazard Statement Codes	H302: Harmful if swallowed H311: Toxic in contact with skin H332: Harmful if inhaled H314: Causes severe skin burns and eye damage H317: May cause an allergic skin reaction H373 May cause damage to organs (gastrointestinal tract and respiratory tract) H341: Suspected of causing genetic defects H350: May cause cancer H411: Toxic to aquatic life with long-lasting effects
Suppl. Hazard Statement Code	EUH071: Corrosive to the respiratory tract
<b>Specific Concentration limits, M-Factors</b>	M = not applicable

#### b) Intended use, target species and effectiveness

RP 3:2 containing biocidal products are used as bactericides and fungicides for the preservation of metal working fluids (PT13) which are prone to bacterial decay. The product is intended to be incorporated by professional users into water based emulsifiable metalworking fluids (MWF) to act as a preservative with bactericidal and fungicidal activity. The lubricant concentrate, intended for the preparation of water based emulsifiable metal working fluids, contains the active substance at a concentration of 3% w/w. The use concentration of the active substance in metalworking fluids is typically 0.15% w/w. The active substance has to be regularly or occasionally re-dosed if the concentration is below the effective concentration of 0.15% w/w.

The assessment of the biocidal activity of the active substance demonstrates that it has a sufficient level of efficacy against gram negative bacteria such as *Pseudomonas spec.*, gram positive bacteria such as *Bacillus spec.* and *Mycobacterium sp.*, yeasts such as *Candida albicans* and *Rhodotorula mucilaginosa (rubra)* and fungi such as *Fusarium oxysporum*. The available data can be considered to include tier 2 data sufficiently simulating anticipated service life of the MWF only when the product is directly applied into MWF directly dosed in the metal working system. In this case, simulated ageing is not relevant because in real-life the relevant matrix is preserved only for periods that are covered by the available data (referring also to the respective test duration). There is also a recommendation by the supplier to test the matrix e.g. weekly to decide if re-dosing is necessary. The active substance is a formaldehyde-releaser. The biocidal activity of the active substance is due to

the interaction of the released formaldehyde with protein, DNA and RNA. The interaction with protein results from a combination with the primary amide and the amino groups. It reacts with carboxyl, sulfhydryl and hydroxyl groups.

As formaldehyde is not specific for one cellular target, the development of resistance is unlikely, if sufficiently high formaldehyde concentrations are guaranteed that exceed the capacity of the innate detoxification systems.

### **c) Overall conclusion of the evaluation including need for risk management measures**

A common core dossier was developed for formaldehyde, which was agreed at a Biocides Technical Meeting. This core dossier forms the basis of the hazard assessment of formaldehyde for all formaldehyde releasing active substances.

#### **Human health**

The toxicity of the active substances is dominated by skin sensitization and local irritation and local (in vitro) genotoxicity (but negative systemic in vivo genotoxicity) and the hydrolysis study and efficacy mode of action support that the equilibrium within the RP 3:2 quickly shifts towards formaldehyde and 2-hydroxypropylamine by dilution and by the reaction of formaldehyde with biological media. This is essentially the basis for reading across the classification of formaldehyde for germ cell mutagenicity category 2 and carcinogenicity category 1B. However the risk assessment provided below for local and for systemic effects includes also the potential for carcinogenic effects.

The risk from the application of RP 3:2 as PT13 within metal working fluids within industrial processes is characterised in this CAR. 100% RP 3:2 as manufactured may be used to formulate a 3% lubricant concentrate. 100% RP 3:2 or a 3% lubricant concentrate is loaded to metal working fluids with a final concentration of typically 0.15%. However exposure to 100% RP 3:2 has to be completely excluded due to the corrosive and sensitizing hazard and consequently this was not considered for risk assessment for systemic effects. Due to the high concentration of RP 3:2 in the lubricant concentrate incomplete hydrolysis to formaldehyde and 2-hydroxypropylamin is expected therein. Therefore for lubricant concentrate dermal risk estimates are provided for 2 situations: non-hydrolysed RP 3:2 and full hydrolysis to formaldehyde and 2-hydroxypropylamin. The second hydrolysis product 2-hydroxypropylamine is not further considered since the respective AEL is much higher and the exposure potential is not higher compared to formaldehyde. However for respiratory exposure just the situation of complete hydrolysis is considered: The vapour pressures of the products and the composition of the gaseous phases are expected to be already determined inter alia by hydrolysis products. Therefore it is considered to be appropriate to estimate the respiratory exposure for the situation of complete hydrolysis of RP 3:2 to formaldehyde. The second hydrolysis product 2-hydroxypropylamine is not further considered since the respective AEL is much higher and volatility, i.e. exposure potential, is lower compared to formaldehyde.

In contrast RP 3:2 is highly diluted in the metal working fluids and therefore full hydrolysis to formaldehyde and 2-hydroxypropylamin is expected therein. Consequently for the use of metal working fluids risk estimates are provided just for the situation of full hydrolysis. However risk estimates are provided only for formaldehyde, not for 2-hydroxypropylamin, since for the latter the AEL is much higher and the vapour pressure, i.e. exposure potential, is much lower compared to formaldehyde.

The table below summarises the exposure scenarios assessed.



Summary table: human health scenarios			
Scenario	Primary or secondary exposure and description of scenario	Exposed group	Conclusions
PT13: Formulation of lubricant concentrate	<p>Primary exposure covering the following tasks: mixing, sampling, filling, cleaning</p> <p>Exposure to active substance and lubricant concentrate</p> <p>Acceptable with efficient local exhaust ventilation (LEV), automatic dosing system, sampling with practically closed system*, technical and organisational RMM and PPE (like gloves, coveralls, faceshields) for high local hazard category (dosing, mixing, sampling, filling) and RMM for standard industrial workplace for other tasks</p> <p>* use of closed bottles and appropriate LEV, if system is opened</p>	Industrial workers	Acceptable with RMM and PPE
PT13: Use in metalworking processes	<p>Primary exposure covering the following tasks: mixing and loading , machine work (drilling grinding etc; tool setting and dismantling, operator near to machine), control and cleaning of work pieces, fluid monitoring, gathering shavings/ chippings/ turnings (swarf removal), discharging of system (and sump maintenance)</p> <p>Exposure to active substance, lubricant concentrate and metal working fluids</p> <p>Acceptable with efficient local exhaust ventilation (LEV), automatic dosing system, technical and organisational RMM and PPE (like gloves, coveralls) for high local hazard category (dosing, mixing) and LEV and RMM for standard industrial workplace for other tasks.</p>	Industrial workers	Acceptable with PPE and RMM

Risk for the formulation of lubricant concentrates (mixing and loading, sampling, filling and bottling, cleaning of vessels) as well as risk for the use of RP 3:2 in metal working fluids (mixing and loading of lubricant concentrates, machine work, control and cleaning of work pieces, fluid monitoring, swarf removal and discharging of system and sump maintenance) is estimated. Exposure to 100% RP 3:2 has to be completely excluded due to the corrosive and sensitizing hazard. Exposure to the 3% lubricant concentrate should also be avoided by use in closed systems and/or high industrial organisational and technical RMM due the skin irritating, eye damaging and sensitizing hazard. Exposure to the metal working fluid containing just 0.15% of RP 3:2 (~ 0.07% formaldehyde, below classification limits of formaldehyde) results in an acceptable risk for local effects with standard industrial

organisational and technical RMM. In this case also risk for systemic effects is acceptable. Considering that local irritation is a condition for the development of tumours and applying a deterministic threshold AEC and AEL, also the risk for potential carcinogenic effects appears acceptable.

No exposure of general public, no exposure of pets and no dietary exposure is expected due to the intended PT13 use. Dermal contact against dried concentrates in dirty clothes in home laundry of working clothes is assumed to be not relevant as RP 3:2 residues will quickly hydrolyse and generate gaseous formaldehyde, which is transferred to the gaseous phase and will not remain on the clothes.

## Environment

The risk characterisation was based on the hydrolysis products 2-hydroxypropylamine and formaldehyde as during the disinfection and use of the metal working system RP 3:2 has almost completely hydrolysed. The parent compound itself is therefore not expected to reach any environmental compartment. 2-Hydroxypropylamine and formaldehyde are expected to be readily biodegradable in the environment and are unlikely to bioaccumulate in biota. For acute toxicity algae is the most sensitive species with a 72h-E<sub>50</sub> of 5.7 mg/L (geometric mean, *Desmodesmus subspicatus*) for formaldehyde and a 96h-E<sub>50</sub> of 118.4 mg/L (nominal, buffered, *Pseudokirchneriella subcapitata*) for 2-hydroxypropylamine. Both compounds are not classifiable towards environmental hazards based on the available data.

The table below summarises the exposure scenarios assessed.

Summary table: environment scenarios		
Scenario	Description of scenario including environmental compartments	Conclusion
<b>PT13:</b> Working or cutting fluid preservatives  Emulsifiable fluids  Waste treatment: - End-user, on-site: splitting techniques of emulsion based on K <sub>ow</sub>	Waste treatment is done by end-users who treat their waste on-site and apply commonly used emulsion splitting techniques based on the partition coefficient K <sub>ow</sub> (e.g. chemical splitting, ultrafiltration). All waste waters resulting from the use of water miscible MWF will be led to biological treatment before discharge into the environment.  <b>Affected environmental compartments:</b> STP, surface water, sediment, soil, groundwater	Acceptable for 2-hydroxypropylamine at an in-use concentration of 0.15% of RP 3:2.  For formaldehyde not acceptable for STP, surface water and soil at an in-use concentration of 0.15% of RP 3:2.
Emulsifiable fluids  Waste treatment: - End-user, on-site: splitting via evaporation (based on vapour pressure)	Waste treatment is done by end-users who treat their waste on-site. The splitting of the emulsion is based on the on vapour pressure and done via evaporation. All waste waters resulting from the use of water miscible MWF will be led to biological treatment before discharge into the environment.  The risk assessment was calculated for the life cycle stage "waste treatment after refreshment".  <b>Affected environmental compartments:</b>	Acceptable for 2-hydroxypropylamine at an in-use concentration of 0.15% of RP 3:2.  For formaldehyde not acceptable for STP, surface water and soil at an in-use concentration of 0.15% of RP 3:2.

Summary table: environment scenarios		
	STP, surface water, sediment, soil, groundwater	
Emulsifiable fluids Waste treatment: - Waste management company: splitting techniques of emulsion based on $K_{ow}$	<p>Waste treatment is managed by a waste management company which receive waste from smaller MWF-using companies who to not refer to on-site treatment. The splitting of the emulsion is based on the partition coefficient <math>K_{ow}</math>. All waste waters resulting from the use of water miscible MWF will be led to biological treatment before discharge into the environment.</p> <p>The risk assessment was calculated for the life cycle stage "waste treatment after refreshment".</p> <p><b>Affected environmental compartments:</b> STP, surface water, sediment, soil, groundwater</p>	<p>Acceptable for 2-hydroxypropylamine at an in-use concentration of 0.15% of RP 3:2.</p> <p>For formaldehyde not acceptable for STP, surface water and soil at an in-use concentration of 0.15% of RP 3:2.</p>
Emulsifiable fluids Waste treatment: - Waste management company: splitting via evaporation (based on vapour pressure)	<p>Waste treatment is managed by a waste management company which receive waste from smaller MWF-using companies who to not refer to on-site treatment. The splitting of the emulsion is based on the on vapour pressure and done via evaporation. All waste waters resulting from the use of water miscible MWF will be led to biological treatment before discharge into the environment.</p> <p>The risk assessment was calculated for the life cycle stage "waste treatment after refreshment".</p> <p><b>Affected environmental compartments:</b> STP, surface water, sediment, soil, groundwater</p>	<p>Acceptable for 2-hydroxypropylamine at an in-use concentration of 0.15% of RP 3:2.</p> <p>For formaldehyde not acceptable for STP, surface water and soil at an in-use concentration of 0.15% of RP 3:2.</p>

The risk assessment was calculated for the life cycle stage "waste treatment after refreshment".

The risks for 2-hydroxypropylamine to the environment including non-target organisms were acceptable.

Risks of formaldehyde in the four scenarios are acceptable only:

- If formaldehyde concentrations in the water phase after on-site or off-site treatment is below 40 mg/L, unless further evidence is provided within product authorisation that measurements are not necessary

Formaldehyde is a very reactive compound so it can be assumed that during and after application of the product the concentration of formaldehyde will decrease by a chain of chemical reactions. Degradation since last dosing, i.e. operating time since last biocide dosing, storage at end-user site or transport to waste management facility and storage at waste management site was not taken into account in the exposure calculations (as there is no standard algorithm that can be used to derive such degradation rates). However, for an estimation of the exposure reduction, a supporting pilot study on the degradation of

formaldehyde in used MWF was submitted. In this pilot study the formaldehyde concentration of an used emulsion of a metalworking company was measured, which was delivered to a waste treatment company. The measurements showed that after distillation, the content of formaldehyde in the distillate is below the limit of quantification ( $<40$  mg/L). The pilot study results are considered as supportive information due to several limitations. Regarding a concentration of 40 mg formaldehyde per litre waste water in the influent of a municipal STP, no unacceptable risks concerning the affected environmental compartments are indicated. For a refinement of the exposure calculations additional robust information on degradation of formaldehyde between the last dosing and the start of waste treatment would be necessary. This additional information enables the use of an elimination fraction that includes degradation during use, storage at end-user site, transport to waste management facility and storage at waste management site.

It has to be highlighted, that the environmental exposure calculations are very conservative as no degradation of formaldehyde in the system during use was assumed. However the above mentioned pilot study provides evidence for high degradation of formaldehyde during use (83 % between dosing and removal of the metal working fluid). As the exceedance of the  $PEC/PNEC_{STP}$  ratio regarding formaldehyde is around 3, the required new data will allow to refine the exposure calculations also in this respect, which will most likely result in an acceptable risk.

A risk management option for the terrestrial compartment is a restriction of the use of sewage sludge in agriculture depending on national legislations.

The measurements of formaldehyde in effluents take into consideration aggregate exposure from multiple uses and product types as well as exposure from other formaldehyde sources, at least for end-user on-site treatment aggregate exposure of PT2 and PT13 would be covered.

Concerning risks to surface water intended for the abstraction of drinking water the parametric value of  $0.1 \mu\text{g/L}$  of the Drinking Water Directive 98/83/EC may be exceeded. This may be considered by the relevant national authorities when issuing permits for recovery plants.

## **Overall conclusion**

Overall a safe use (preservation of water based emulsifiable metalworking fluids [MWF], directly dosed in the metal working system by professionals) has been identified for the use of RP 3:2 to preserve metal working fluids in PT13 provided adequate RMM and PPE are implemented for human health and environment. The overall risk remains unknown due to the non-conclusion of the ED assessment. The revised BPC Opinion ECHA/BPC/338/2022 includes the ED assessment.

## **2.2. Exclusion, substitution and POP criteria**

### **2.2.1. Exclusion and substitution criteria**

The table below summarises the relevant information with respect to the assessment of exclusion and substitution criteria:

Property		Conclusions	
CMR properties	Carcinogenicity (C)	Cat 1B	RP 3:2 does fulfil criterion (a) of Article 5(1)
	Mutagenicity (M)	Cat 2	
	Toxic for reproduction (R)	no classification required	
PBT and vPvB properties	Persistent (P) or very Persistent (vP)	not P or vP	RP 3:2 does not fulfil criterion (e) of Article 5(1) and does not fulfil criterion (d) of Article 10(1)
	Bioaccumulative (B) or very Bioaccumulative (vB)	not B or vB	
	Toxic (T)	T	
Endocrine disrupting properties	Section A of Regulation (EU) 2017/2100: ED properties with respect to humans	<p>An assessment of the endocrine disrupting properties was conducted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- the ED criteria for the T modality are not met;</li> <li>- for EAS modalities no conclusion can be drawn based on the available data.</li> </ul> <p>However, considering the known severe hazard properties of this substance and based on scientific reasons, further data will not be requested in this special case.</p>	No conclusion can be drawn whether RP 3:2 fulfils criterion (d) of Article 5(1) and/or criterion (e) of Article 10(1).
	Section B of Regulation (EU) 2017/2100: ED properties with respect to non-target organisms	<p>An assessment of the endocrine disrupting properties was conducted:</p> <p>for EAS modalities as well as for T-modality no conclusion can be drawn based on the available data.</p> <p>However, considering the hazard profile of this substance and the anticipated difficulties to determine the mode of action, further data will not be requested in this special case based on scientific reasons.</p>	
	Article 57(f) and 59(1) of REACH	No	

Property		Conclusions	
	Intended mode of action that consists of controlling target organisms via their endocrine system(s).	No	
Respiratory sensitisation properties	No classification required. RP 3:2 does not fulfil criterion (b) of Article 10(1).		
Concerns linked to critical effects	Based on the available data it cannot be concluded if RP: 3:2 does fulfil criterion (e) of Article 10(1).		
Proportion of non-active isomers or impurities	The substance does not contain a significant proportion of non-active isomers or impurities. RP 3:2 does not fulfil criterion (f) of Article 10(1).		

Consequently, the following is concluded:

Reaction products of paraformaldehyde and 2-hydroxypropylamine (ratio 3:2) does meet the exclusion criteria laid down in Article 5(1) of Regulation (EU) No 528/2012 by the released formaldehyde being a carcinogen Cat 1B.

Reaction products of paraformaldehyde and 2-hydroxypropylamine (ratio 3:2) does meet the conditions laid down in Article 10(1)(a) of Regulation (EU) No 528/2012, and is therefore considered as a candidate for substitution by meeting the exclusion criteria.

The exclusion and substitution criteria were assessed in line with the "Note on the principles for taking decisions on the approval of active substances under the BPR"<sup>4</sup> and in line with "Further guidance on the application of the substitution criteria set out under article 10(1) of the BPR"<sup>5</sup> and "Implementation of scientific criteria to determine the endocrine –disrupting properties of active substances currently under assessment"<sup>6</sup> agreed at the 54<sup>th</sup>, 58<sup>th</sup> and 77<sup>th</sup> meeting respectively, of the representatives of Member States Competent Authorities for the implementation of Regulation 528/2012 concerning the making available on the market and use of biocidal products. This implies that the assessment of the exclusion criteria is based on Article 5(1) and the assessment of substitution criteria is based on Article 10(1)(a, b, d, e and f).

An ED assessment for RP 3:2 has been carried out taken the EFSA/ECHA (2018) guidance for the identification of endocrine disruptors into account. The ED assessment has been also discussed in the ED expert group via a written procedure, followed by an ad hoc meeting in June 2021. The advice of the experts was considered for the ED assessment.

For the T-modality the ED criteria are not met for human health. For non-target organisms no conclusion can be drawn on T-modality based on the available data. For EAS modalities no conclusion can be drawn for human health and non-target organisms based on the available data. Further testing with the active substance is not considered appropriate in that specific case because 'testing does not appear scientifically necessary' (first heading of

<sup>5</sup> See document: Further guidance on the application of the substitution criteria set out under article 10(1) of the BPR (available from [https://circabc.europa.eu/d/a/workspace/SpacesStore/dbac71e3-cd70-4ed7-bd40-fc1cb92cfe1c/CA-Nov14-Doc.4.4%20-%20Final%20-%20Further%20guidance%20on%20Art10\(1\).doc](https://circabc.europa.eu/d/a/workspace/SpacesStore/dbac71e3-cd70-4ed7-bd40-fc1cb92cfe1c/CA-Nov14-Doc.4.4%20-%20Final%20-%20Further%20guidance%20on%20Art10(1).doc))

<sup>6</sup> See document: Implementation of scientific criteria to determine the endocrine –disrupting properties of active substances currently under assessment (<https://circabc.europa.eu/sd/a/48320db7-fc33-4a91-beec-3d93044190cc/CA-March18-Doc.7.3a-final-%20EDs-%20active%20substances%20under%20assessment.docx>).

Annex IV of Regulation (No) 528/2012 and because 'testing is technically challenging' (referring to second heading on Annex IV), as detailed below.

- It is uncertain, if further mechanistic studies, particularly with mammals with RP 3:2 would allow establishing a mode of action, keeping in mind that endocrine mediated endpoints may be impacted secondary to general, non-endocrine toxicity and that in vivo apical endpoints can be triggered by several modes of action, including endocrine and non-endocrine modalities. Also for aquatic species it would be challenging to get meaningful results in further tests as correct dose setting and detangling the ED mode of action from non-ED modes of action are hampering the performance and interpretation of such tests. For birds no agreed and adequate study protocols are available to determine endocrine modes of action.
- Due to the properties of RP 3:2 as skin corrosive, skin sensitising and local acting genotoxic carcinogen and the corresponding low effect concentration(s), it is difficult to select an appropriate test system to get meaningful results, at least for mammals.
- The main hydrolysis product formaldehyde of RP 3:2 is an endogenously formed substance with a high turn-over rate in mammals and potentially also other non-target organisms. Exogenous FA due to biocidal product use might be a minor contributor to total systemic exposure.

Hence, a final conclusion on the exclusion criteria related to Article 5(1)(d), and on whether RP 3:2 shall be considered a candidate for substitution related to possible ED effect to Article 10(1)(e) is not possible for RP 3:2. Consequently, the overall risk of this substance is not fully known due to the non-conclusion of the ED assessment.

### **2.2.2. POP criteria**

A PBT assessment was performed for RP 3:2 and its hydrolysis products. Based on the available data RP 3:2, 2-hydroxypropylamine and formaldehyde are neither vPvB, nor PBT substances. Furthermore, none of the 3 substances meets two of the PBT criteria. Therefore, neither the parent nor its hydrolysis products meet the criteria for POPs either.

### **2.2.3. Public consultation for potential candidates for substitution and alternative substances or technologies**

As RP 3:2 is considered a candidate for substitution ECHA launched the public consultation in accordance with Article 10(3) of Regulation (EU) No 528/2012. The public consultation took place from 4 November 2016 to 3 January 2017. Four contributions were submitted: one by an industry stakeholder association, two by individual companies and one by a member state. The same contributions were submitted in the consultation on the structurally and toxicologically related substance RP 1:1.

In the member state contribution it is stated that no information on alternatives is available as the product types are not covered by their national authorisation scheme. This may be the case for more member states.

In the three industry contributions information is submitted on the importance of formaldehyde releasers in the control of microbial growth in water-containing products or equipment. In addition, information on alternatives is submitted for all product types.

Three general observations are made in the industry contributions:

- First, it is stated that other formaldehyde releasers are not considered as alternatives

as it can be foreseen that these will also be classified as carcinogen category 1B and subsequently meet the exclusion criteria. In total 10 other formaldehyde releasers are under evaluation and one (formaldehyde released from N,N-Methylenebis(morpholine) or MBM for PT 6 and 13) is already approved.

- Second, it is stated that for an effective preservation of many water-based products a bactericide and fungicide is needed. Subsequently, fungicide active substances cannot be regarded as suitable alternatives.
- Last, it is stated that another class of bactericides are the isothiazolinones. Although these are not meeting the substitution criteria it should be considered that these are all classified as strong skin sensitizers. This triggers several obligations for the user making this class of active substances not suitable alternatives.

For PT13 in the industry contributions CMIT/MIT, MIT, BIT, diamine, phenoxyethanol, MBIT and DBNPA are indicated as possible alternatives. It is concluded that isothiazolinones (CMIT/MIT, MIT, BIT and MBIT) would be the only practical alternatives; however these are classified as skin sensitizers. MIT has also limitations because of its lower stability. BIT has a gap of efficiency against *Pseudomonas* species. Diamine is an alternative to RP 3:2 in PT13 niche applications only; phenoxyethanol has a limited use in metalworking fluids due to its low partition coefficient; and DBNPA has technical limitations (fast decomposition at pH>7 and in presence of nucleophilic compounds).

The following active substances are already approved for PT13: biphenyl-2-ol, C(M)IT/MIT, chlorocresol, IPBC, formaldehyde released from N,N-Methylenebis(morpholine) or MBM and MIT. C(M)IT/MIT and MIT belong to the class of isothiazolinones. Formaldehyde released from N,N-Methylenebis(morpholine) or MBM is also a formaldehyde releaser meeting the exclusion criteria. Biphenyl-2-ol and IPBC are fungicides. For chlorocresol it is stated in the BPC opinion that sufficient efficacy has been demonstrated for the representative product against bacteria and fungi.

The limited information available is insufficient to conclude on the availability of suitable alternatives for the intended uses assessed.

In 2023, another evaluation of the availability and suitability of alternatives to the active substance was conducted. The respective BPC opinion (ECHA/BPC/405/2023) was amended accordingly.

### **2.3. BPC opinion on the application for approval of the active substance RP 3:2 in product type 13**

As the exclusion criteria are met, RP 3:2 should normally not be approved unless one of the conditions for derogation set in Article 5(2) of Regulation (EU) No 528/2012 is met.

If RP 3:2 is approved and included in the Union list of approved active substances, the approval shall be subject to the following specific conditions:

#### **1. Specification:**

The active substance has to be considered as substance of Unknown or Variable composition or Complex reaction products (UVC). Therefore the minimum purity is 1000 g/kg (100% by wt).

#### **2. RP 3:2 is considered a candidate for substitution in accordance with Article 10(1)(a) of Regulation (EU) No 528/2012.**



3. The authorisations of biocidal products are subject to the following condition:

- a. Products shall only be authorised for use in Member States where at least one of the conditions set in Article 5(2) of Regulation (EU) No 528/2012 is met. Measures shall ensure that exposure of the user and the environment is minimised as far as possible.
- b. The product assessment shall pay particular attention to the exposures, the risks and the efficacy linked to any uses covered by an application for authorisation, but not addressed in the Union level risk assessment of the active substance. In addition, pursuant to point 10 of Annex VI to Regulation (EU) No 528/2012, the product assessment shall include an evaluation as to whether the conditions of Article 5(2) of Regulation (EU) No 528/2012 can be satisfied.
- c. In view of the risks identified for the uses assessed, the product assessment shall pay particular attention to:
  - i. Professionals and industrial workers
  - ii. Sewage Treatment Plant, surface water and the terrestrial compartment
- d. Member States competent authorities shall specify in the summary of the biocidal product characteristics of a biocidal product containing RP 3:2 the relevant instructions for use and precautions to be indicated on the label of the treated articles under Article 58(3), point (e), of Regulation (EU) No 528/2012.

4. The placing on the market of treated articles is subject to the following condition:

The person responsible for the placing on the market of a treated article treated with or incorporating RP 3:2 shall ensure that the label of that treated article provides the information listed in the second subparagraph of Article 58(3) of the Regulation (EU) No 528/2012.

RP 3:2 does not fulfil the criteria according to Article 28(1) to enable inclusion in Annex I of Regulation (EU) 528/2012 as it is classified as Acute Tox. 3, Skin Corr. 1B, Skin Sens. 1A, STOT RE 2, Muta 2, Carc. 1B.

#### **2.4. Elements to be taken into account when authorising products**

1. The active substance RP 3:2 is considered as a candidate for substitution, and consequently the competent authority shall perform a comparative assessment as part of the evaluation of an application for national authorisation.
2. The following recommendations and risk mitigation measures have been identified for the uses assessed. Authorities should consider these risk mitigation measures when authorising products, together with possible other risk mitigation measures, and decide whether these measures are applicable for the concerned product:
  - a. The use of a biocidal product containing RP 3:2 shall be subject to appropriate risk-mitigation measures to ensure that exposure of humans, animals and the environment is minimised as far as possible.
  - b. If an unacceptable risk for professional users is identified for the product, safe operational procedures and appropriate organisational measures shall be established. Where exposure cannot be reduced to an acceptable level by other means, products should be used with appropriate personal protective equipment.

- c. Surface water intended for the abstraction of drinking water may exceed the parametric value of 0.1 µg/L of the Drinking Water Directive 98/83/EC. This may be considered by the relevant national authorities when issuing permits for recovery plants.
- d. Unacceptable risks are identified for the Sewage Treatment Plant, surface water and the terrestrial compartment. If the risk cannot be reduced to an acceptable level by appropriate risk mitigation measures or by other means, these uses should not be authorised.

## **2.5. Requirement for further information**

Sufficient data have been provided to verify the conclusions on the active substance, permitting the proposal for the approval of RP 3:2. However, further data shall be required as detailed below. Data must be provided as soon as possible but not later than 6 months before the date of approval to the evaluating Competent Authority (Austria):

- a. Regarding the explosive properties of the active substance an experimental test has to be conducted as the substance contains of unknown constituents and therefore the waiving cannot be justified by structural considerations.
- b. A specific or highly specific and fully validated analytical method for the determination of the hydrolysis product 2-hydroxypropylamin in water.
- c. For the refinement of the environmental risk assessment monitoring in three spent fluids of the concentration of formaldehyde between the last dosing and the emulsion splitting (using techniques based on Kow and via evaporation) and before the biological waste treatment. If further refinement is necessary an OECD STP simulation test 303 A or 314 should be conducted.