



## **Chemical Disclosure by Suppliers**

As part of our industry's proactive approach to promote worker health and safety in the semiconductor industry and protect the environment, the WSC requests that individual semiconductor companies and their suppliers work on a voluntary basis to increase the disclosure of chemicals present in products supplied to the industry. Specifically, the WSC calls on suppliers to take voluntary action to disclose information about the presence of regulated substances in their products even if these substances are below regulatory thresholds that would mandate disclosure. The disclosure of information, consistent with existing and evolving regulatory requirements, will help enable the industry to develop the most effective programs to protect worker health and safety and the environment and to act more effectively on new information.

Suppliers provide their customers, such as semiconductor manufacturers, with information on the chemical composition of their products in documents known as safety data sheets (SDSs). Legal requirements may vary around the world, but laws typically set forth threshold levels that mandate reporting of a chemical substance in a chemical formulation. If a particular chemical substance is below the reporting threshold, the chemical may not be disclosed in the SDS. As a result, a chemical that is relevant for purposes of assessing worker exposure may be present in a chemical mixture sold to the semiconductor industry, but the specific chemical might not be disclosed in the SDS.

To improve our industry's protection of human health and the environment, the WSC encourages individual semiconductor manufacturers to work with their chemical suppliers on a voluntary basis to support disclosure of information on all chemicals in a product, even if the chemical is present in concentrations below applicable regulatory thresholds. Such disclosure should inform manufacturers on information such as the presence of impurities, derivatives, and other relevant information about chemicals of concern, and consistent with existing and evolving regulatory requirements, will help enable the industry to develop the most effective programs to protect worker health and safety and the environment and to act more effectively on new information. Such disclosure should be included in the SDS if possible, but if this information is a trade secret, it should be disclosed in a separate document that can be protected from public disclosure. The WSC requests that suppliers enter into company-to-company agreements to protect any information that may be deemed a trade secret.

Working together, the global semiconductor industry and its suppliers can help protect workers from exposure to chemicals of concern.

### **About WSC**

The World Semiconductor Council is a cooperative body of the world's leading semiconductor industry associations – consisting of the Semiconductor Industry Associations in China, Chinese Taipei, Europe, Japan, Korea and the United States – that meets annually to address issues of global concern to the semiconductor industry. The WSC also meets annually with the governments and authorities of the six regions to convey industry recommendations. The WSC is dedicated to the principle that markets should be open and competitive and works to encourage policies and regulations that fuel innovation, propel

business and drive international competition in order to maintain a thriving global semiconductor industry.

More information on the WSC is available at <http://www.semiconductorcouncil.org>