



Product Stewardship Risk Characterization and Management

Merisol US identifies its high priority chemicals according to DOT/UN classification and packaging requirements. We further characterize and manage risk using a process guided by the principles of Responsible Care. This process considers both product hazards and exposure potential.

The criteria used to assess risk include:

- product hazard data such as toxicological, physical and environmental data obtained from scientific literature, supplier material safety data sheets, in-house and industry-sponsored testing
- regulatory classifications such DOT class and packaging group designations
- product volume sold
- mode of transportation used in distribution
- end use
- end-user sophistication as demonstrated by public commitment to Responsible Care, self assessments, audits or other information regarding health, safety & environmental management systems.

Merisol US manages product risk via several different means.

- New product and new process design are conducted using the Sasol Business Development & Implementation (BD&I) model which includes risk assessment and management. (New product is defined here as a material not previously produced. Variations on blends of existing products are not considered new products for purposes of this risk management procedure.)
- New and potential business for existing products is screened via sales sample and new customer procedures which ascertain whether the intended application and end-user represent an acceptable and responsible opportunity.
- Material safety data sheets for Merisol products are developed, maintained and supplied as required and as requested.
- Safe handling information is also made available through technical contacts, on-site visits, on-line and video resources.
- Existing business is subject to an annual risk review process described in further detail below.

The Merisol US product risk review process involves the participation of representatives from Sales, Customer Service, Product Technical Service, Logistics, Safety/Health/Environmental/Security, and other subject matter experts as required. Annual sales and distribution data are reviewed. Risk rankings are calculated based upon the criteria listed above. Other factors are considered, such as distribution or customer incidents, if any. Elevated risk rankings are highlighted for discussion and clarification. Specific areas of concern or opportunities for improvement are noted and next steps are defined. The results of this annual review are published to the organization including senior management and the international sales team. Progress on action items is monitored and reported. Examples of outcomes could include:

- Modification of criteria to highlight specific risks.
- Development of educational materials for customers and employees
- Changes in sales, storage and distribution
- MSDS revisions.