



22 and 23 October 2020 | Online Conference | Die Akademie Fresenius GmbH

International Akademie Fresenius Conference

Microplastics

+++ONLINE TRAINING+++



www.akademie-fresenius.com/2863

Programme

PLEASE NOTE: The indicated times refer to Central European Summer Time CEST.

Thursday, 22 October 2020

10:45 CEST - Start of the Online Conference

Welcome address by the organisers and introduction by the Chair

Martin Klatt, BASF, Germany

11:00 CEST - Regulatory Changes

REACH restriction of intentionally added microplastics – status update and refinements to the proposal made during the Opinion-making process

Peter Simpson, European Chemicals Agency (ECHA), Finland

Cefic perspective on the Opinion

- General position on the restriction
- Considerations on the definition
- Challenges ahead

Blanca Serrano, European Chemical Industry Council (Cefic), Belgium

NGO perspective on how to regulate microplastics

Jeroen Dagevos, Plastic Soup Foundation, The Netherlands

Practical evidence for a necessary refinement of the new legal framework for (intentionally added) microplastics: The example of polyethylene wax

- Homogeneous grouping – prerequisite for solid scientific judgement
- Thresholds on continuous proper functions

Alexander Lichtblau, Clariant, Germany

Industry perspective on ECHA's restriction proposal: The implications for polymer dispersions and their down-stream industrial uses

- General overview of concerns and major implications for industry
- Impact of microplastic restrictions on the dispersion industry and its down-stream industry
- Suggestions for improvement

Martin Klatt, BASF, Germany

Intentionally added microplastics in agricultural products

- Polymers vs microplastics in agricultural products
- Relevance of microplastics in agricultural products
- Difficulties and impact of the restriction on the agro industry

Annika Batel, BASF, Germany





13:40 CEST - Lunch break

15:00 CEST - Risk Assessment

EFSA: Science, food, society and micro-/nanoplastics

Hans Verhagen, European Food Safety Authority (EFSA), Italy

Human health effects of microplastics

- How to address and test the toxicity of microplastics?

Yvonne C.M. Staal, National Institute for Public Health and the Environment (RIVM), The Netherlands

Microplastics in food: Oral uptake, toxicology and initial aspects of risk assessment

Alfonso Lampen, The German Federal Institute for Risk Assessment (BfR), Germany

Transferring microplastic fate and effects knowledge from the environment to human health

- Environmental research as lead for our current understanding of microplastic fate and effects;
- Transferability to human health research
- Nanoplastic and plastic additive chemicals as most significant sources of risk from plastic
- Learning from the nanosafety and chemical risk assessment: How to avoid re-inventing the wheel?

Andy Booth, Sintef, Norway

17:00 CEST - End of the first conference day

Friday, 23 October 2020

10:50 CEST - Start of the second day of the online conference

Opening remarks for the second conference day by the Chairs

11:00 CEST Keynote: Regulatory Developments in the EU

Update from the Commission: Microplastics and the EU Plastics Strategy

- The decision-making process for intentionally added microplastics: Status update
- General initiatives on microplastics in the EU Plastics Strategy

Valentina Bertato, European Commission, Belgium

11:30 CEST - Environmental Risk Assessment

Modeling the flows of macro- and microplastics to the environment

- Release modeling based on material flow analysis
- Polymer-specific approach including tyre-wear particles
- Spatially-resolved and dynamic modeling

Bernd Nowack, Swiss Federal Laboratories for Materials Testing and Research (EMPA), Switzerland

Microbes and microplastics: Influence of the biofilm on ecotoxicology

- How does the microbial colonisation of microplastics influence plastic properties?
- What implications do these changes have for the assessment of microplastic ecotoxicity?
- Should ecotoxicological studies be using microbially colonised microplastics and what are the challenges of this?

Katey Valentine, University of York, United Kingdom

The challenge of understanding microplastic exposure and hazard in a global context

- Why are microplastics such a complex issue?
- What influences the fate and transport of microplastics within the environment?
- Are some microplastics more harmful than others?
- What research is needed to understand the risks posed by microplastics?

Alice Horton, National Oceanography Centre, United Kingdom



13:00 CEST - Lunch break

14:00 CEST - Continuation Environmental Risk Assessment

Challenges in the environmental risk assessment of microplastics and regulatory implications: Perspective of the German REACH Competent Authority

- Current standards defined by different legislations
- Existing test systems – are those applicable for polymere based particles?
- Threshold criteria for chemicals – are these also applicable for microplastics?
- Restriction of intentionally added microplastics – for which reasons the precautionary principle needs to be applied?

Jürgen Fischer, German Environment Agency, Germany

Microplastics as stressors in different ecosystems

Christian Laforsch, University of Bayreuth, Germany

14:40 CEST - Proactive Solutions

Microplastic to microfibers – how to achieve zero leakage to the environment

- Definition of microplastic / origin and sources
- What the consumer goods industry is already doing and what the next steps are
- Microfibers: leakage via textile washing
- Recent research and how to reduce pollution further

Thomas Müller-Kirschbaum, Henkel, Germany

15:30 CEST End of the Conference

Do you have any questions?



Programme and conceptual design

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