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# GC3 Chemical Data Working Group



**Advancing Green Chemistry Practices in Business:  
6<sup>th</sup> Annual Green Chemistry & Commerce Council Innovators Roundtable**  
HP Executive Briefing Center  
Cupertino, CA  
May 4 & 5, 2011



Presented by:  
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Monica Becker & Associates Sustainability Consultants

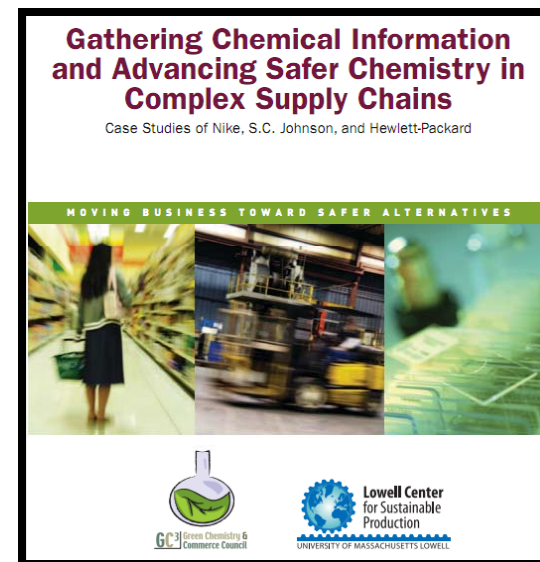


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# GC3 Chemical Data Working Group History

(Former Working Group Name - Tools for Chemical Assessment and Safer Design)

- 2007 Report on tools for chemical assessment
- 2008 Report on Restricted Substances Lists (RSL)
- 2009 In-depth case studies of Nike, HP and SC Johnson on:
- Gathering chemical data from supply chains
  - Use of chemical data to develop safer products
- 2010 Meeting Customers' Needs for Chemical Data: A guidance document for suppliers



Documents available at: <http://www.greenchemistryandcommerce.org/publications.php>



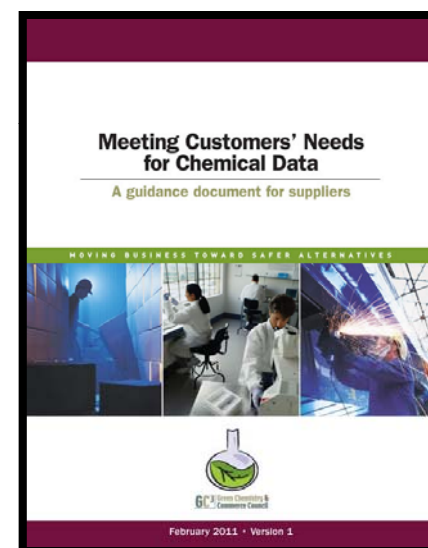
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# Meeting Customers' Needs for Chemical Data: A guidance document for suppliers

## Motivations for developing the Guidance Document

B-2-B communication of chemical data along supply chains is critically important for:

- regulatory compliance
- safer product design
- green certification programs
- chemical disclosure initiatives, etc.



To be successful, product manufacturers and retailers need the active engagement of suppliers to provide relevant chemical information.

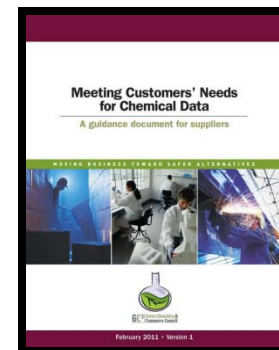


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# Meeting Customers' Needs for Chemical Data: A guidance document for suppliers

## Motivations for developing the Guidance Document (cont.)

Many product manufacturers and retailers are spending significant resources to get the data, including educating their suppliers on:

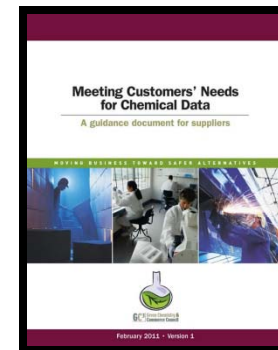


- What constitutes “chemical data”
- Why companies need chemical data
- What benefits accrue to suppliers who provide data
- Where and how to get chemical data
- How to address CBI
- Why MSDS’ aren’t adequate
- How companies use chemical data to make safer products



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# Meeting Customers' Needs for Chemical Data: A guidance document for suppliers



## Categories of Chemical Data Addressed

- 1. Chemical identification:** Chemical name, trade name, and CAS number of chemical ingredients in an article or chemical mixture, which may include intentionally added chemicals and impurities.
- 2. Chemical function:** Function of a chemical ingredient in an article or chemical mixture (e.g. preservative, anti-oxidant, fragrance).
- 3. Human/Ecological hazard:** Human health and ecotoxicological characteristics of chemical ingredients and chemicals used in making that ingredient, as well as their physical safety properties such as flammability.
- 4. Exposure potential:** Potential for human or environmental exposure to chemical ingredients in an article or chemical mixture.



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# Meeting Customers' Needs for Chemical Data: A guidance document for suppliers

## Table of Contents

Section 1: Why do fabricators and formulators need chemical data?

Section 2: What are “chemical data”?

Section 3: How can suppliers benefit from collecting and providing chemical data to their customers?

Section 4: Why isn't a Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) or Safety Data Sheet (SDS) enough?

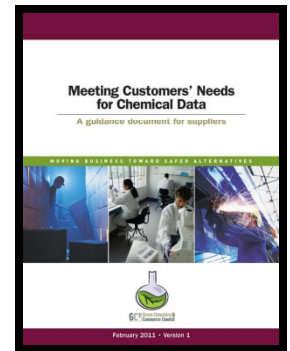
Section 5: How do companies address confidential business information?

Section 6: How are fabricators and formulators gathering chemical data from their supply chains?

Section 7: Where and how do suppliers get chemical data to provide to their customers?

Section 8: How fabricators and formulators use chemical data to make safer products

Section 9: Conclusions and future directions

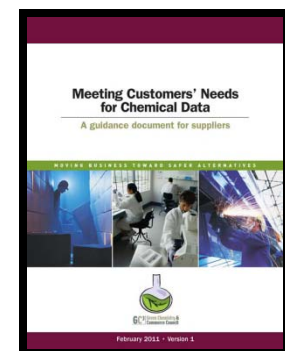


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# Meeting Customers' Needs for Chemical Data: A guidance document for suppliers

## Resources in Appendices:

- Examples of company data collection practices
- Key regulations that require chemical data collection
- Industry sector initiatives to standardize and streamline data collection
- Software for collecting and reporting chemical data to customers
- Information sources for chemical hazard and toxicity data
- Sources of information on safer chemicals
- Systems for evaluating the safety and design of chemicals, chemical products, and processes



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# Meeting Customers' Needs for Chemical Data: A guidance document for suppliers

## APPENDIX C-1

### Sample Customizable Letter to Suppliers Requesting Chemical Information

Date

Name  
Company  
Address

Dear :

I am writing to request information on the following chemicals/materials/components/products that you are supplying to us/we are interested in purchasing from you:

Product 1

Product 2

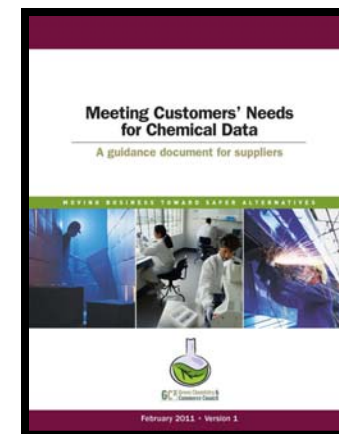
This information is needed by Company (choose one or more of the following)

to help us comply with regulations that restrict the use of certain chemicals in our products

to help us comply with regulations that require disclosure of chemical content in our products

to support our company's program that restricts the use of certain chemicals in our products

to evaluate environmental, health and safety characteristics of chemicals prior to selection for use in our products





# Meeting Customers' Needs for Chemical Data: A guidance document for suppliers

## APPENDIX C-2

### Sample Customizable Material Information Form

**\_\_\_ Chemical composition information—fill in information below**

Please copy and complete the table for each product that we are requesting information on.

Target weights plus impurities should total to 100%

List all intentionally-added<sup>2</sup> constituents in part 1 of the table below and impurities in part 2

Part 1. Intentionally-added constituents—if supplied material is the product of chemical synthesis, list feedstock materials and solvents			
Constituent name (INCI or equivalent)	CAS number <sup>2</sup> / EINECS or ELINCS <sup>2</sup> / EC No <sup>4</sup> /C.I. <sup>5</sup>	Weight % (minimum/ maximum/ target)	Constituent function in product*

\* Constituent function can be: raw material/feedstock, preservative/anti-oxidant, solvent, catalyst, coating, finishing chemical, fragrance, UV filter, or other categories.

Part 2. Impurities—list impurities regardless of amount, including residues, catalysts, reaction by-products, residual solvent carriers, unreacted raw materials (e.g., monomers).			
Constituent name	CAS number/ EINECS or ELINCS/ EC No/C.I.	Maximum level in weight %, ppm or ppb	Comments (including explanation of why impurity is in the product)

If composition is not completely listed, please indicate reason below



# Meeting Customers' Needs for Chemical Data: A guidance document for suppliers



**“The GC3 Guidance provides some great advice, offers solid tools and case studies to drive the business case, and tools to effectively engage both upstream suppliers and downstream customers to green up the supply chain, support product stewardship, and make consumer products safer.”**

Dave Meyer, April 28, 2011

<http://sustainablebusinessforum.com/davemeyer01/51227/manufacturing-suppliers-retailers-partnering-better-chemical-data-supply-chain>



## Meeting Customers' Needs for Chemical Data

Source: Green Chemistry and Commerce Council  
Published April 25, 2011  
Tags: Green Chemistry & Toxics

DOWNLOAD

### Meeting Customers' Needs for Chemical Data

A guidance document for suppliers



From the Green Chemistry and Commerce Council:

Business-to-business communication of chemical data, such as chemical identity a health and safety impacts, along supply chain critically important to product manufacturer efforts to make informed decisions on the and environmental impacts of the products they put on the market. Forward looking companies working to bring safer products market need the active engagement of suppliers to provide relevant chemical information.

Email

### FEATURED RESOURCES

> SEE ALL



**Meeting Customers' Needs for Chemical Data**  
Why companies want more chemical information from suppliers, and why suppliers should...



**Managing Sustainable Global Supply Chains**

Business

What has been learned from 25 years of research on sustainable supply chains?...



**Business Lessons from a Radical Industrialist**  
Business Lessons from a Radical Industrialist is now out in paperback, chronicling the...



**Reducing Our Footprint** Business

The Grocery Manufacturers Association reports on its members packaging cuts from 2005-2010...



TOOL



PODCAST



VIDEO



BOOK



ORGANIZATION



REPORT



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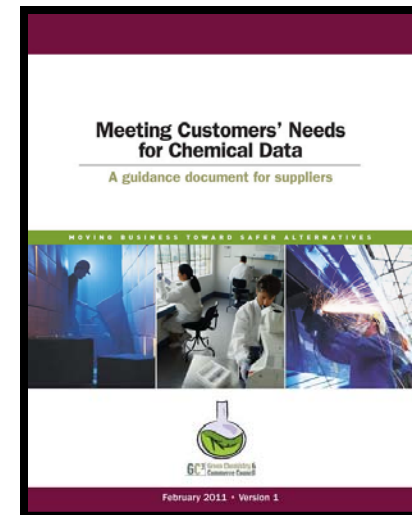
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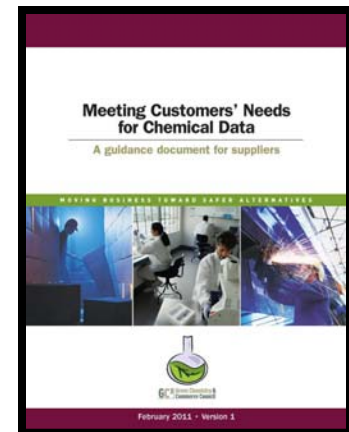
Gabe Wing, Herman Miller



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Please:

- Read it
- Send it to your suppliers, vendors, purchasing agents, merchants, supply chain groups, etc.
- Give us your feedback
- Encourage those that you give it to to give us feedback



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Thank You!



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