

21-22 January 2025 | Brussels

OVERCOMING CHALLENGES AND ADVANCING (BIO) DEGRADATION GUIDELINES: OECD TG309 REVISITED



Date and Venue: 21-22 January 2025, The Hotel (Boulevard de Waterloo 38) Brussels.

Workshop Format: 1.5-day F2F + online

Background and objectives: The OECD 309 test guideline (Aerobic Mineralisation in Surface Water), last updated in April 2004, plays a pivotal role in understanding the environmental fate of chemicals and is generally the first test requested under REACH for non-readily biodegradable substances. Given the anticipated update in the OECD work programme, this workshop aims to unite experts in environmental chemistry, toxicology, and regulatory science to discuss the improvement of the guideline.

Objectives:

- Discuss and address current challenges and limitations in conducting and interpreting degradation simulation studies.
- Define/align on the key updates needed for the OECD 309 guideline.
- Define roadmap to ensure that the prioritised updates flagged would be addressed in time for the OECD 309 TG (test guidelines) update.
- Identify research needs and potential methodological advancements to improve this and other guideline's relevance and applicability.

Participants: The workshop seeks to bring together participants from regulatory bodies, academia, industry, and environmental NGOs. Inclusion of specialists in (bio)degradation, persistence assessment and environmental modelling is particularly encouraged.

Funded by: ECETOC and CONCAWE.

Workshop Reporting: A publication detailing the workshop discussions, outcomes, and proposed roadmap for the OECD 309 guideline update.

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Workshop programme

| Day 1: 21 st January 2025 | |
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| 12:30 – 13:00 | Arrival and registration |
| 13:00 – 14:00 | Welcome Lunch |
| 14:00 – 14:15 | Welcome, introduction and workshop objectives |
| 14:15 – 15:00 | Scene setting keynotes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. “History” of OECD309 (20 minutes) ii. Ramboll on the results of the OECD test guideline survey projects (25 minutes) |
| 15:00 – 15:15 | Coffee break |
| 15:15 – 16:15 | Robustness pillar (1 hour duration): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Main presentation on key challenges (20 min) ii. Short follow-on presentations on selected issues (20 min) iii. Questions, research needs, discussion points, and additional topics raised by the audience. (20 min) |
| 16:15 – 17:15 | Implementation pillar (1 hour duration): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Main presentation on key challenges (20 min) ii. Short follow-on presentations on selected issues (20 min) iii. Questions, research needs, discussion points, and additional topics raised by the audience. (20 min) |
| 19:00 | Evening event |

| Day 2: 22 nd January 2025 | |
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| 9:30 – 9:45 | Welcome and setting the day |
| 9:45 – 10:45 | Relevance pillar (1 hour duration): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Main presentation on key challenges (20 min) ii. Short follow-on presentations on selected issues (20 min) iii. Questions, research needs, discussion points, and additional topics raised by the audience. (20 min) |
| 10:45 – 11:00 | Coffee break |
| 11:00 – 12:30 | Breakout Sessions Part 1 |
| 12:30 – 13:30 | Lunch |

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| 13:30 – 15:00 | Breakout Sessions Part 2 | |
| 15:00 – 15:15 | <i>Coffee Break</i> | |
| 15:15 – 16:15 | PLENARY: Overview of Breakout Sessions | |
| 16:15 – 16:30 | Conclusion & Close | |

Organising Committee

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|-----------|----------------|----------------------|
| Michael | McLachlan | Stockholm University |
| Dieter | Hennecke | Fraunhofer Institute |
| Louise | Camenzuli | Exxonmobil |
| Amelie | Ott | ICCS |
| Chris | Hughes | Ricardo |
| Delina | Lyon | Concawe |
| Katherine | Santizo | Cefic |
| Christian | Schlechtriem | Fraunhofer Institute |
| Blanca | Serrano | ECETOC |
| Megan | D'souza | ECETOC |
| Anne | Valles Meunier | ECETOC |