CLEANCHAIN
AN ADEC INNOVATION

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)
August 2017

WHAT IS CLEANCHAIN™ AND WHAT DOES IT DO?

CleanChain™ from ADEC Innovations (ADEC) provides a secure, central solution for chemical inventory, delivery, testing, and discharge data so your staff has the critical performance insights and improvement plans needed to better run your business – and be rewarded for doing so.

Whether you are a textile supplier or manufacturer of finished goods, you know that chemical management issues are becoming an increasingly urgent issue for industry. More and more you are asked to disclose your chemical management activities to customers and authorities in different formats and timeframes. Not only to meet RSL and health and safety standards, but also for a growing list of environmental concerns.

Whether it is to report on your management processes and procedures, respond to audits or measure chemical compliance against multiple Manufacturing Restricted Substance Lists (MRSLs) or RSLs on behalf of your customers or disclosure organizations, you may be struggling to track the needed data and respond to all these requests.

ADEC CleanChain leverages subject matter expertise, a data bureau team and technology to offer an affordable solution for your business:

- ▶ Multiple data entry processes, including system integration for all your chemical data
- ▶ Linked to third-party accreditation schemes and systems, including the ZDHC Gateway
- ▶ Real-time MRSL lists from thousands of well-known chemical producers
- ▶ Customer linking to seamlessly share data
- ▶ Performance benchmark and chemical conformance reporting
- ▶ Reconciliation of input decisions with discharge results
- ▶ Automated invitation to customers to access requested data
- ▶ Common SDS directory
- ▶ Local supplier and manufacturing access
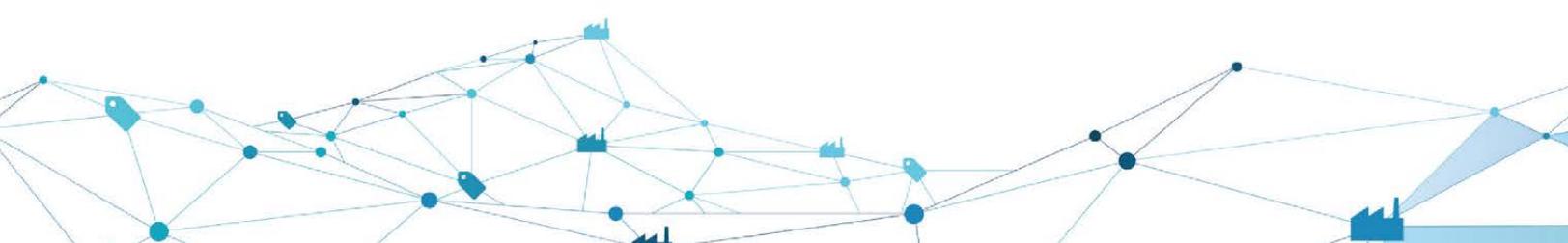- ▶ Multi-lingual

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS FOR BRANDS AND SUPPLIERS?

For Suppliers, CleanChain provides a secure, central solution for managing and reporting chemical logistics data, as well as testing and discharge information, so your staff has the performance insights and improvement plans needed to better run your business – and be rewarded for doing so.

- ▶ Save time and costs collecting and reporting chemical and discharge data
- ▶ Ensure compliance against customer policies and commitments
- ▶ Maximize competitiveness and maintain positive customer relationships
- ▶ Minimize inventory overstock and avoid use of out of date chemicals
- ▶ Reduce the number of audits and wastewater tests

For Brands, CleanChain aligns with your current processes and provides the information and insights needed to manage your unique and complex MRSL compliance processes and eliminate the discharge of hazardous chemicals.

- ▶ Ensure you are eliminating the use of hazardous chemicals and environmental emissions
- ▶ Understand and reduce environmental, health and safety risks across your supply base
- ▶ Improve and ensure MRSL compliance
- ▶ Reduce costs and administrative burden of aggregating supply chain data
- ▶ Make more informed procurement decisions
- ▶ Align chemical management across broader programs and policies
- ▶ Demonstrate progress against internal and external commitments

HOW DO I IMPORT AND MAINTAIN DATA IN CLEANCHAIN AND WILL I GET TRAININGS?

Details on how to submit/maintain your data can be found in the Help and Support section of the application. We support bulk and manual uploads of your chemical inventory data. More information can be found here (English) and here (Chinese).

Currently, the system is available in English, Chinese, Vietnamese, and Italian. ADEC will be adding new languages on a regular basis as needed.

WHO CAN SEE MY DATA?

With ADEC CleanChain, you have the control to decide who you want to share your information with. Your profile is public to all CleanChain users, but your chemical data will be available only to your users and your customers who you 'link' to in the system.

HOW MUCH DOES CLEANCHAIN COST?

It is important to ADEC that CleanChain remains affordable for suppliers and your specific pricing will be provided to you during the registration process. Depending on which subscription you have, CleanChain allows:

- ▶ Sharing of linked data with the brands you select
- ▶ System access by up to 5 users at one facility
- ▶ Unlimited formulations
- ▶ Realtime performance scorecard
- ▶ Access to ADEC's formulation compliance database
- ▶ Connect to your suppliers
- ▶ Easily respond to other specific requests from your customers

Upon registration to the system, you will be asked for credit card/payment details. Once payment is received, you will have full access to the system.

CAN I SEE THE DATA FOR ALL ENTITIES WHO ARE USING CLEANCHAIN?

You can see data only for your suppliers who have granted you permission to do so. CleanChain Product Library also gives all CleanChain users access to all public chemical product information in the database which include Gateway data and ADEC crowd-sourced data.

CAN I TAG A SUPPLIER IN CLEANCHAIN TO SHOW THAT THEY ARE MY SUPPLIER?

Yes.

AFTER I IDENTIFY MY SUPPLIER IN CLEANCHAIN, WHAT DATA OF THEIRS CAN I SEE?

Identifying another company as a supplier does not immediately give you the ability to view any of their data. However, you can request permission to see their data. There are three levels of permission:

- ▶ **Limited View** – all users are granted Limited View of their suppliers. With a limited view of a supplier, you can view their profile, which includes the company name, address, contact names, banner, and description. If you want to see their product data, you need to request Moderate Details or Full Details permissions.
- ▶ **Moderate** – With Moderate Details permission, you can view your supplier's connections profile. This includes their chemical products and formulations, conformance, and a list of their suppliers. To get an accurate picture of your own conformance, it is imperative that you receive Moderate Details permission from all of your suppliers.
- ▶ **Full Inventory** – With Full Details permissions, you can view your supplier's connection profile. You can also view and download more detailed information on your supplier's inventory and/or delivery data, e.g. quantities on individual deliveries, raw Excel files and delivery dates.

IF I DON'T WANT MY CUSTOMER TO SEE MY DATA, CAN I TELL THEM "NO"?

Your customer must request permission to see your data. You certainly can reject this request (except Limited View), however, CleanChain recommends giving customers full access into your inventory as it will give an accurate portrayal into their own ZDHC performance. Given that, each connection request is a request, and is not mandatory. You may want to discuss with your customer before access is granted.

IF I AM CONNECTED TO TWO DIFFERENT CUSTOMERS IN CLEANCHAIN, CAN EACH CUSTOMER SEE THAT I SUPPLY TO THE OTHER?

No, permission and access can only be granted down the supply chain. Your customers will never see who else you supply to. You are also not able to see your customers' data.

HOW CAN I BE SURE MY DATA IS SECURE?

Some of the world's largest (and smallest) companies trust ADEC with their data. ADEC's security is regularly audited. If you would like more information on ADEC's controls and how it secures chemical data, please contact: myaip@adec-innovations.com

WHERE DOES CLEANCHAIN GET CERTIFICATIONS AND CHEMICAL CONFORMANCE INFORMATION?

CleanChain has a formulation database that is continuously being updated by inputs from various sources including the ZDHC Gateway, an open directory of chemical formulation conformance information; information directly from chemical manufacturers; and the like. CleanChain then systematically matches the chemical delivery and inventory data entered by suppliers against the different data sources compiled as part of our formulation database to determine your overall chemical conformance levels.

AT A MINIMUM, WHAT INFORMATION DO I NEED TO INPUT FOR MY CHEMICAL DATA?

When you link with a company and agree to provide them with your chemical data, whether it is inventory or delivery data, you will be requested to complete, at a minimum, the formulation name and the quantity of that formulation delivered and/or in inventory. In addition, the company to which you are sharing your data may require additional information. If they do, you will see those fields on your CleanChain data entry forms and/or in your upload templates.

HOW OFTEN SHOULD I INPUT MY CHEMICAL DATA?

To make the most of CleanChain, you should enter the data into the system as often as possible to help your organization better manage your operations and chemical stock. We recommend weekly or monthly at a minimum, however you may want to enter it more frequently based on how your integrate CleanChain into your current business processes.

CAN CLEANCHAIN AUTOMATICALLY CONNECT TO THE INVENTORY MANAGEMENT SOFTWARE WE USE AT OUR FACILITY?

CleanChain are working on capability to connect to you existing inventory systems. For more information on the cost and process of direct integration with other systems you use, please contact ADEC Innovations at myaip@adec-innovations.com.

AFTER I SUBMIT A BATCH OF CHEMICAL DATA, HOW LONG DOES IT TAKE FOR MY REPORTING IN CLEANCHAIN TO UPDATE?

If you are entering or uploading data directly into CleanChain, your data will be updated immediately, and will be processed within a few business days. If you are using ADEC Innovations' bureau service to upload or quality check the data on your behalf, the agreed-upon timeframe for update will be included in your ADEC service order.

CAN I MAKE MY CHEMICAL PRODUCTS PRIVATE IF THIS PRODUCT IS PROPRIETARY TO ME AND MY CUSTOMERS SO IT'S NOT SEARCHABLE BY OTHER USERS?

CleanChain allows you to decide who you want to share the proprietary product information to and protects the privacy of your proprietary product information. Please keep in mind a proprietary product means this product is not commercially available. Those products that can be easily purchased on the market will not be considered as proprietary products.

CAN I KNOW IF MY CHEMICAL PRODUCTS ARE COMPLIANT IN CLEANCHAIN?

The screening function of CleanChain allows users to compare chemical products against MRSL/RSLs, control lists or other brand-specific requirements.

WHAT DO I NEED TO DO AFTER I RECEIVE THE SYSTEM INVITATION?

After you receive the system invitation from ADEC, you will need to register using the link in the invitation email, agree to the system terms and conditions and pay the annual license fee. Once you have access to the system, you will need to regularly update your chemical formulation information per your clients' requirements.

CAN I HAVE A SYSTEM DEMO?

You can book a demo at the CleanChain website: http://cleanchain.adec-innovations.com/. We currently provide demo in English and Chinese. The demo will show you the key features of the CleanChain.

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