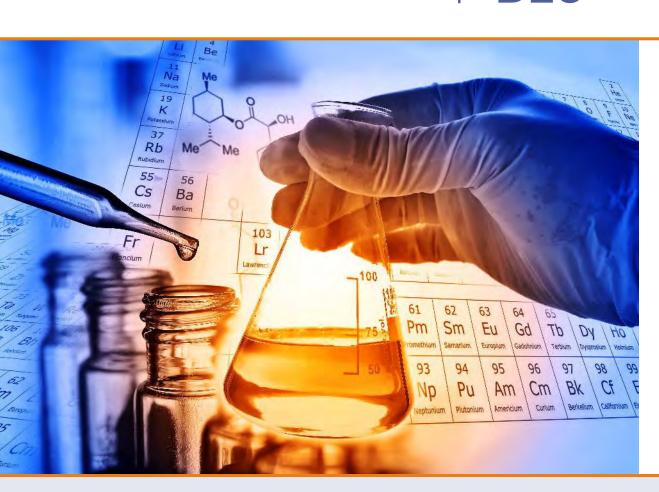


### **BLC**





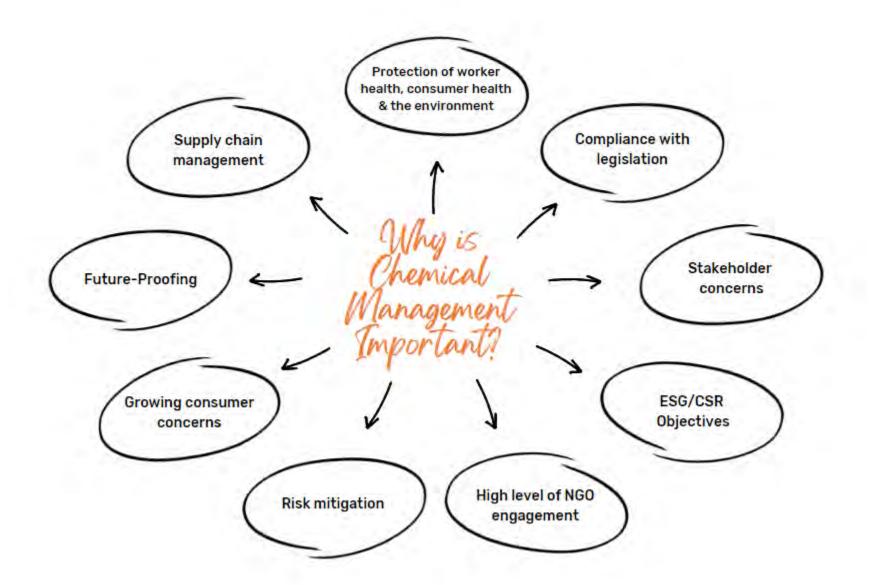
### Chrome VI, ESG & Thinking Strategically about Chemical Management

FDRA Footwear Product Safety Conference

March 2023

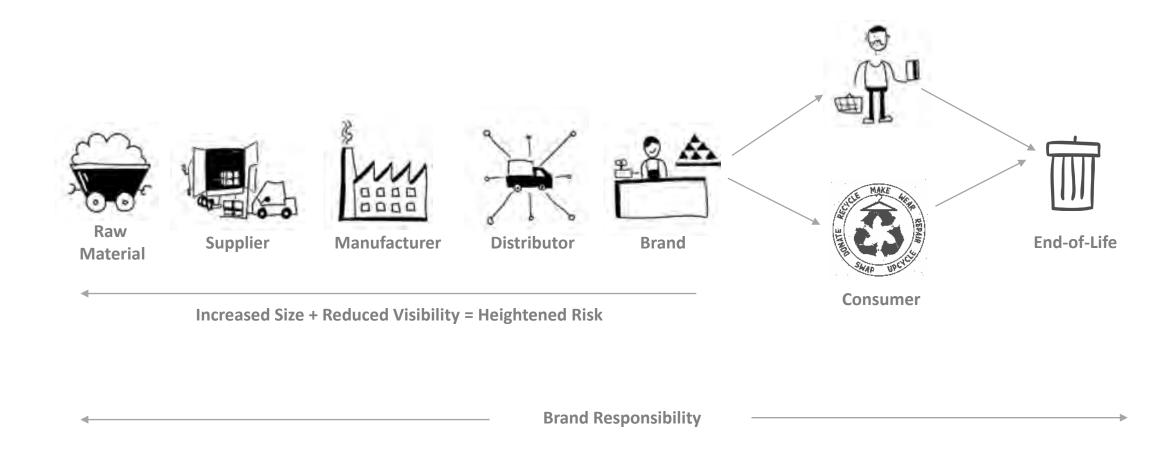
Georgina Mawer, Eurofins | BLC



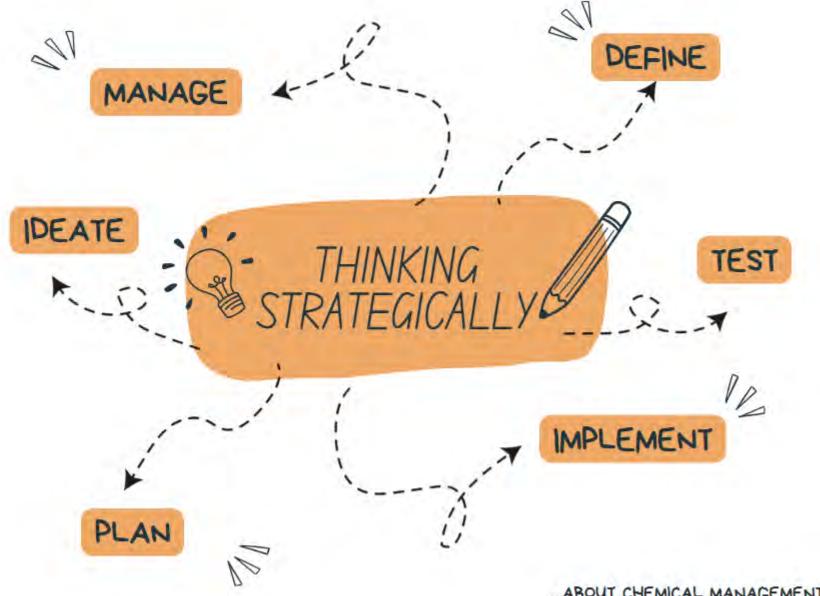




### Chemical Management in and along the Supply Chain





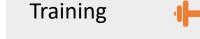


....ABOUT CHEMICAL MANAGEMENT

#### Key Considerations for a Robust Chemical Management System



# General Observations



- Is chemical management a board agenda item?
- How are decisions communicated?
- Association with industry groups such as ZDHC and LWG
- Access to legal counsel etc

- Is there any internal training on chemical management?
- Is training provided to suppliers?
- Internal chemistry qualifications etc

#### Auditing



- Are chemical management audits conducted?
- Who carries out the audits (3<sup>rd</sup> party?)
- Future plans for audits etc

# Material Procurement



- Process for procuring materials
- Selection of suitability of materials
- Is there an approved materials list
- Communication between sourcing teams and regulatory teams etc

# Future Proofing



- Involvement with NGO's
- Plans for phase out chemicals
- Communication internally and decision making etc

#### MRSL Validation



- Communication of MRSL
- Chemical inventories
- Has any MRSL testing been conducted? etc

#### Supplier Management



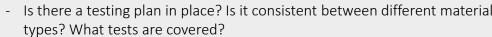
- Process for supplier onboarding
- Selection of suitability of suppliers
- Direct sourcing Vs subcontractors
- Is there an approved supplier list
- Communication between suppliers and regulatory teams etc

#### **Restricted Substances Policy**

- Is there a policy on restricted chemicals? What is covered, how is this determined?
- How is the policy maintained, communicated and updated?
- How is compliance to the policy monitored?



#### **Testing**

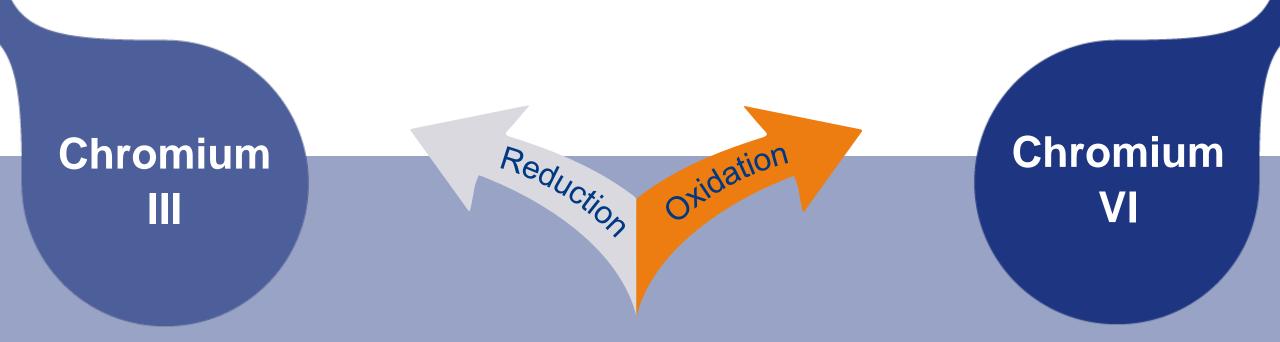




- Is there a policy around failures and implementation of corrective actions?
- Are testing providers accredited? How are they selected etc



### **Chemical Focus: Chrome VI**



# Minimising the risks

- Chemical Purchasing
  - Use reputable suppliers
  - Consider all Cr containing chemistries
  - Chemical purchasing policies
- Fat Content
  - Degreasing (<3% desirable)
  - Iodine content of fatliquors
- pH Levels
  - Processing water ideally <6.5
  - Avoid use of ammonium-based chemistries



#### Free Chromium

- Not all Cr is fixed
- "Free" "Extractable" "Unfixed "Soluble" "Leachable" "Migratable"
- Can be measured
- Chemical Usage
  - Avoid oxidizing chemistries
  - Addition of propriety chemicals to reduce risk
- Post-Production
  - Transportation & Storage
  - Remediation

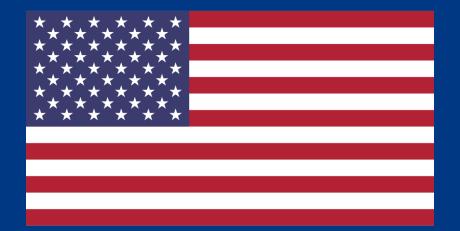


Annex XVII – REACH Regulations (3ppm)

**Sensitisers Proposal (1ppm)** 

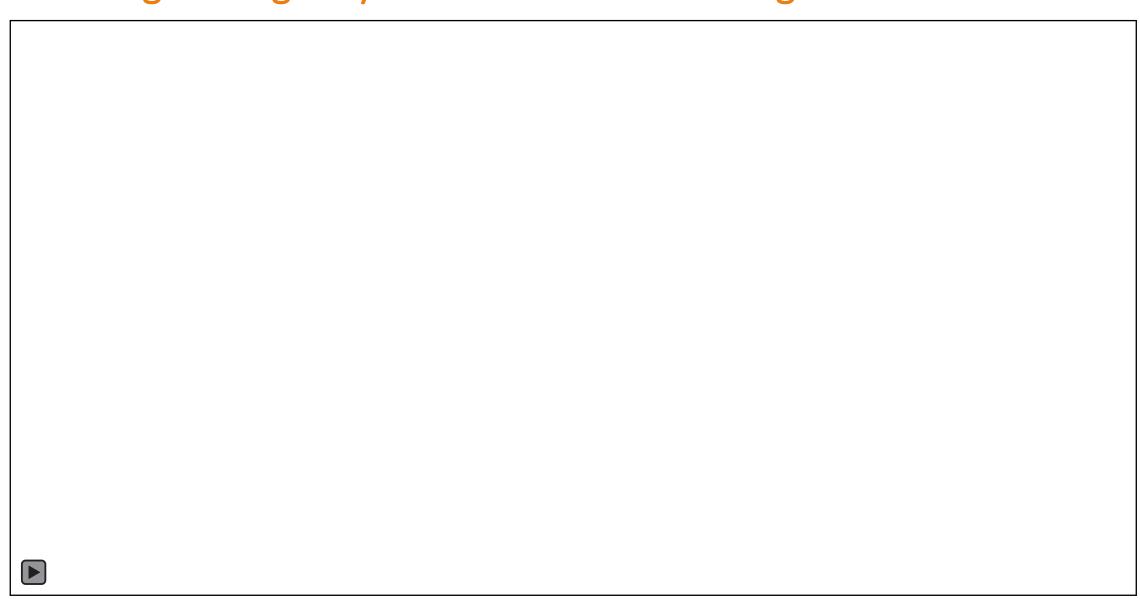


### **California Proposition 65 Notices**



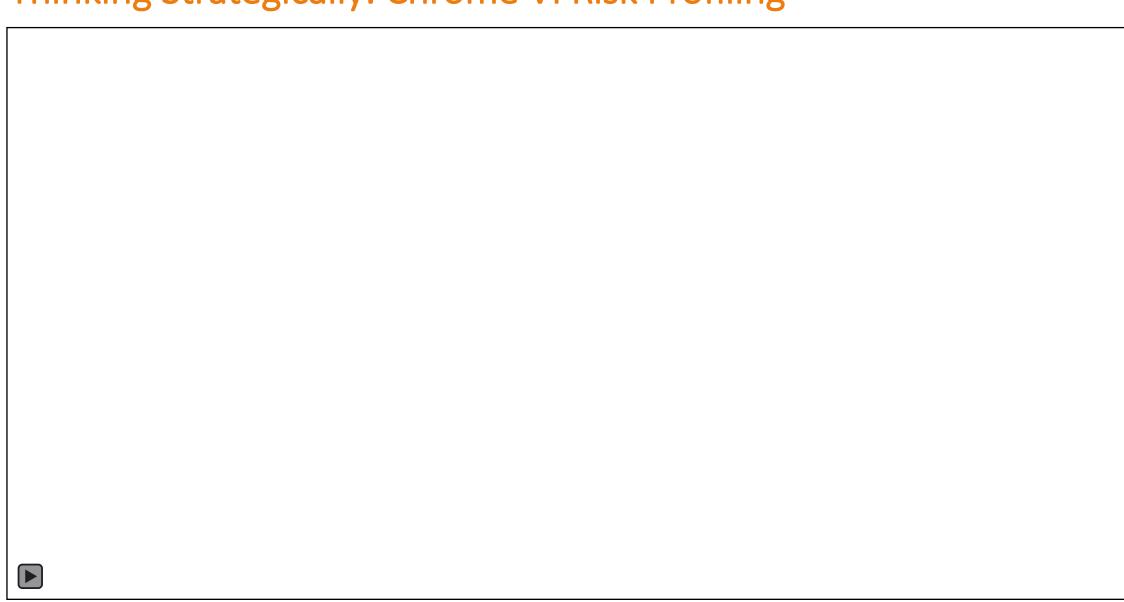






# Thinking Strategically: Chrome VI Risk Profiling







### Closing Thoughts.....

The primary notion that underpins a CMS is that it should serve as a programme for progressive improvement. Through the understanding of a multitude of relevant 'risk factors,' your business will be able to gain a more comprehensive and reliable picture of its individual chemical risk. Through management and data analysis, these risks will be better understood and consequently more effectively minimised.





# THANK YOU FOR LISTENING ANY QUESTIONS?

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