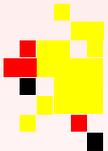


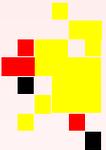
Why materials and products in contact with drinking water matter

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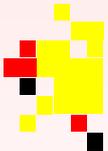
Chemicals and Materials

- Potential to impact public health.
- WHO Guidelines state that an approval scheme is desirable but perhaps not strongly enough.
- Drinking Water Directive Article 10 – requires that materials and chemicals do not reduce the protection provided by the Directive - complicated by the Construction Products Directive.
- Recognised by several parameters in the Directive, acrylamide, epichlorohydrin, lead, copper, vinyl chloride (chromium, nickel, cadmium).



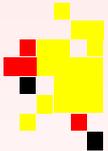
Significant Industry

- This is a large and essential industry.
- It has the capacity to impact the drinking water of everyone.
- We cannot manage without it.
- Contamination impacting drinking water quality can and does undermine confidence in the public water supply.



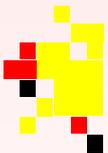
Past Problems

- Coal tar linings.
- Lead and lead solder.
- Plastics - stabilizers and unreacted monomers and antioxidants.
- Solvent cements.
- Epoxy resin lining.
- Ion exchange resins.
- Cement mortar lining.



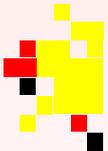
How do we prevent problems?

- We need to be sure that infrastructure will not contaminate the water.
- Water suppliers and plumbers have no time or resources to determine the safety of materials for themselves.
- Trusted approval of products provides a system by which this can be achieved.
- Should include ways in which materials/chemicals can be used, or not.



Problem of Diversity

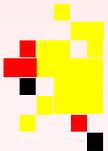
- Several approval schemes exist.
- Four member states working together, France, Germany, Netherlands, UK.
- All have differences although this is not necessarily a problem.
- However, need EU-wide acceptance that is easily recognisable so that manufacturers do not need to get approval in several countries and purchasers know that approval is sound.



Issues

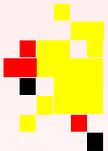


- Must not be too complicated.
- Needs to consider surface area in contact with the water and contact time (one size doesn't fit all, proportionality is important).
- Must not be a means of stifling innovation.
- Sufficiently flexible to take account of new developments.
- Sensible balance between precaution and stifling competition and innovation.



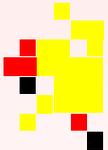
Advantages of a European System

- Manufacturers can be confident that approval will be accepted all over Europe and beyond?
- Consumers and regulators can be confident that a material/fitting will not be a threat to health or water quality.
- Water suppliers know what can be used.
- Opportunity for export markets since many other countries look to Europe and the USA.



Questions

- How far will this go? Will it include domestic fittings?
- How will it be regulated/enforced?
- How will it be publicised?
- Will there be a central registry/listing?
- What about post-approval quality assurance?



Conclusions

- Water is different – more akin to food packaging.
- The lack of a suitable European-wide agreed system is a potential barrier to trade.
- It does need to be proportionate but not just a tick-box.
- It would be an advantage to exporters.
- It is long overdue.

