



DMK Group

Hazardous chemicals management made easy

About DMK Group

As one of the largest dairy companies in Europe, the DMK Group has around 7,800 employees across 19 locations. From MILRAM and Oldenburger to Humana and Alete, DMK's brands are well established in over 100 countries. Its products range from milk-based products and cheese to milk-based ingredients for food production, health products, baby food and ice cream. High product quality and an environmentally friendly approach are key for the group, as is the satisfaction and safety of all its employees. That's why it continuously strives to improve its processes in relation to environmental protection, occupational safety and hazardous chemicals management.



Challenge

Following a company merger, DMK needed to update its occupational safety and hazardous chemicals management. "We were faced with the task of centrally merging and standardizing the hazardous chemicals registers of 19 locations. The flood of lists created by the numerous Excel spreadsheets from different locations was no longer sustainable," explained Torsten Gutowski, Central Occupational Safety Specialist and Hazardous Chemicals Officer at DMK.

Outdated storage methods made it hard to compare data

With more chemicals and more locations to manage, DMK soon recognized that the methods used to date, would not be sufficient. Previously, hazardous and non-hazardous chemicals had been recorded in separate Excel spreadsheets for each department and each location. As a result, vast numbers of tables and lists existed that were neither comparable in terms of content nor structure. The challenges ranged from incomplete records of some chemicals' contents and missing details about application areas, to inconsistent use of abbreviations and repeat entries.

DMK Group is using the following AMCS solution: AMCS EHS Management

Book a call with our experts today for a personalized consultation >

7,800

Employees

19

Locations

100

Countries supplied

3,000

Chemicals managed





Solution

Utilizing AMCS EHS Management simplified the arduous task of managing so many different chemicals by providing an easily accessible online library for safety data and work instructions. Initially, data from 280 suppliers detailing 1,900 hazardous chemicals was imported into the system. Today, after ten years in operation, the company's database has almost doubled, with over 3,000 hazardous and non-hazardous chemicals now managed centrally by AMCS.

AMCS provides a searchable, central hazardous chemicals register

"In the past, we didn't capture nearly as much data about our hazardous chemicals management as we do today. Now, everyone wants to store all their data in the AMCS system because of how convenient and straightforward it is. All information is centrally stored and easy to find – like in a sophisticated online media library," said Torsten Gutowski, Central Occupational Safety Specialist and Hazardous Chemicals Officer at DMK.

Now each entry in the hazardous chemicals register is linked to corresponding documents, from safety data sheets and work instructions to National Sanitation Foundation(NSF) certifications. Up to seven documents are usually assigned to a single chemical. In total, DMK digitally holds over 12,000 documents via AMCS EHS Management.

Results

Compliance with the food industry's strict safety, sustainability and quality standards is easy using the AMCS software, which offers several advantages in terms of organization and time efficiency. Using the AMCS standardized database, DMK can instantly load new safety data sheets into the system, refresh old safety data or create new work instructions that can be shared with colleagues in a matter of seconds.

AMCS software saves time and resources, increasing sustainability

Each of DMK's 19 locations has a dedicated occupational safety specialist as well as an environmental officer and a hazardous chemicals officer. Thanks to AMCS, they all receive up to date documentation automatically, along with centrally created work instructions. This saves an hour's work for each hazardous chemicals officer.

Smart cross-location chemical storage and management tools also reduce waste. Before buying a new chemical, employees can check whether it is already in use at other locations and review existing data. If it is discontinued, they can see whether another location uses it so it can be transported for further use, rather than being sent for disposal. This enables DMK to conserve resources and press ahead with its 2030 Sustainability Strategy.

Audit-ready data simplifies compliance

Today, all ingredients are transferred from safety data sheets into the AMCS system. Where chemicals are subject to regulations such as the EU Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals (REACH) or the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA), AMCS streamlines compliance by enabling DMK to find and filter products quickly. Similarly, during internal and external audits, DMK can now instantly sort chemicals and check the quantities and locations of stored hazardous and non-hazardous chemicals in the system.

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When I need information from a specific safety data sheet during an inspection, I can find it with AMCS in just a few clicks – even on the go.

Torsten Gutowski, Central Occupational Safety Specialist and Hazardous Chemicals Officer at DMK Group