



Press Release

Lyon, 14 November 2006

**GEPAR EXPO 2007:**  
**The first international exhibition for the Management of Hazardous Materials**

**GEPAR EXPO is the first event to federate the activities associated with designing, producing, transporting and eliminating hazardous materials. The exhibition will take place from 19 to 21 June 2007 at the Lyon Convention Centre (France).**

The idea of putting together an exhibition on this subject came from the following observation: every day, we use chemical products (drugs, cosmetics, detergents and so on) which are, by their very nature, active substances that thus have an impact on health and/or the environment.

It is for this reason that the professionals in the sectors responsible for creating, manufacturing and handling these substances are working hard to identify their potential risks and how to deal with them should the need arise.

**GEPAR EXPO will allow them to exhibit and present the means they have at their disposal and the innovative concepts they are developing to prevent and minimise these risks.**

The exhibition will be organised around the lifecycle of products, grouping together the different sectors of activity taking part in these subjects:

- research and development (laboratories, analyses and measurements...),
- production (safety equipment...),
- conditioning (packaging...),
- storage,
- transport,
- recycling
- and the transversal professions (insurance, conformity, certification...).

**Some 5,000 visitors are expected** to attend this first edition, including, amongst others, safety consultants, R&D managers, production managers, logistics directors from various industries (chemical, pharmaceutical, oil...) and the transportation of hazardous materials, businesses in the field of waste elimination and more.

GEPAR EXPO will be more, however, than merely an opportunity to make new contacts. It will also enable the exhibitors and visitors to **collect first hand**

**information and exchange information on topics related to their own sectors of activity through lectures and workshops.**

The uniformisation of European and worldwide regulations, with the implementation of REACH and GHS, will be at the heart of the debates.

REACH: Registration, Evaluation and Authorisation of CHemical substances. These regulations will be adopted in the European Community in 2007. They will oblige the chemicals industry to provide health and environmental safety data for the 30,000 or so substances they produce in quantities of more than 1 tonne. The aim is to identify the hazardous materials, evaluate their risks and, if necessary, plan how to replace them.

GHS : Globally Harmonised System. The United Nations Social and Economic Council has developed a globally harmonised system for classifying, labelling and creating safety data sheets for chemical products. The system was first published in July 2003 and will make it possible to have the same labelling for the same chemical product anywhere in the world. It will be implemented in Europe in parallel with REACH, and will have an impact on the transportation of dangerous merchandise from 2007.

To complete the plenary sessions, the workshops will cover broader topics such as health, work, transportation and the future of these products.

**GEPAR EXPO  
19, 20 & 21 june 2007 – Lyon Convention Centre (France)**

This event is placed under the patronage of the State Department for National Education, Higher Education and Research, and the State Department for Transport, Equipment, Tourism and the Sea.

**Informations and registrations: [www.geparexpo.com](http://www.geparexpo.com)**

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