

The logo features a large, stylized white 'CHSA' on a dark blue background. To the right of the text are four overlapping chevron shapes pointing right, colored teal, blue, teal, and purple. The entire graphic is set against a light gray background.

CHSA

**Cleaning and Hygiene
Suppliers Association**

Regulations Underpin Sustainability

Our Standards. Your Guarantee

The pandemic changed everything

“Regulations are not keeping up with innovation, so don’t worry about them.”

Regulations Matter!

- They guarantee safety
- They underpin transparency and ensure consistency
- They provide a framework for product comparison
- They provide accountability
- They underwrite an ethical approach

The Evolution and Regulation of Cleaning Chemicals: White Paper

Prepared by Peter Thistlethwaite, Technical Manager
Cosmetics and Biocides at MSL Solutions Providers

“Regulations are intended to ensure a cleaning product is safe for the user and the environment when used correctly.”

“Product innovation means testing and regulatory requirements in the biocide market are becoming more complex, and the costs to enter markets are rising. This is expected to lead to a rise in fraudulent products, bypassing or ignoring regulations. Buyers need to beware.”

The regulations

- Superseded by the Biocidal Product Regulation in 2013
 - It aimed to improve the biocide market's efficiency, without compromising product safety
 - Manufacturers must prove all product claims are accurate
- Copied into UK law

CSRD and Green Claims Directive

- Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive
 - Detailed reporting on sustainability risks, opportunities and impacts, using a double materiality approach, is mandated
- Green Claims Directive
 - Combating greenwashing by making sure environmental claims are accurate, verifiable and transparent
 - The Competition & Markets Authority's Green Claims Code is embedded in the CHSA's Code of Practice

When innovation outstrips regulation

- Evolution vs innovation
 - Gradual improvement vs breakthrough developments
- Regulation does not match innovation
 - Recognised and replicable test methods do not exist for many innovations
 - Claims cannot be independently verified

Beware the meaningless & misleading

- Biodegradeable: but over what timeframe and in what conditions?
- Chemical-free: but everything is made of chemicals
- Non-toxic: but to whom and in what concentration and volume?
- Eco or environmentally friendly: but how is this defined?
- Plant-based: but almost all plant-based components are heavily processed through carbon-intensive chemical plans

Be cautious

- 1.Regulations matter
- 2.Seek third-party verification
- 3.Innovation is crucial but buyers need to be informed
- 4.Ask for evidence to back up all product claims
- 5.Ask for the CE declaration and test reports
- 6.Consider the whole life-cycle
- 7.Buy from a reputable supplier with a track record
- 8.Never take sustainability claims at face value

Our Standards. Your Guarantee.

Code of Practice

Our Accreditation Schemes and Code of Practice combine to guarantee every member:

- Trades ethically and sustainably;
- Provides quality, fit for purpose products; and
- Makes sure *what's on the box is what's in the box*.

Independent Inspection



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