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AIHA Guideline Foundation, TERA Announce Completion of Workplace Environmental Exposure Levels® Transfer

TERA OARS to review and revise current WEELs, manage development of future WEEL values

FALLS CHURCH, Va. (July 24, 2013) — The American Industrial Hygiene Association Guideline Foundation announced that the transfer of its Workplace Environmental Exposure Levels® (WEELs) development process to Toxicology Excellence for Risk Assessment under the Occupational Alliance for Risk Science initiative (TERA OARS) has been finalized. The table of WEEL values will now be made available on the TERA website at <http://www.tera.org/OARS/>.

“The completion of this agreement is a key step in accomplishing the goals of the OARS initiative for promoting worker health protection through increased access to high quality occupational exposure limits,” said Tracy A. Kimmel, PhD, DABT, chair of the WEEL committee. “We’d like to thank the OARS Alliance Advisory Board and the WEEL Committee members for their hard work in moving this initiative forward. We’re also grateful to AIHA for its longstanding support for the development of occupational exposure levels.”

“The WEEL values have been an extremely important addition to the various OEL values available for use by industrial hygienists in their efforts to protect worker health,” said Barbara J. Dawson, CIH, CSP, president of the AIHA Guideline Foundation Board. “We’re confident that the OARS initiative managed by TERA will continue to support that work by developing additional WEEL values as well as reviewing and updating current WEEL values.”

WEELs are airborne concentration limits that provide guidance for protecting most workers from adverse health effects related to occupational chemical exposures.

Existing AIHA Guideline Foundation and TERA OARS WEELs will also continue to be made available at <http://www.aiha.org/get-involved/AIHAGuidelineFoundation/WEELs/Pages/default.aspx>. AIHA will also continue to print these values in the [AIHA ERPG/ WEEL Handbook](#).

For more information about current AIHA Guideline Foundation WEELs, including requests for documentation related to the WEEL values, please contact AIHA Customer Service at 703-849-8888 or infonet@aiha.org. For more information about TERA OARS WEELs, please contact TERA at ross@tera.org.

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About the AIHA Guideline Foundation

Formed in 2009, the AIHA Guideline Foundation is dedicated to developing and disseminating occupational and community exposure guidelines for chemical and physical agents and stressors. As a 501(c) (3) nonprofit organization, the AIHA Guideline Foundation conducts research intended to educate the public.

About the Occupational Alliance for Risk Science

The Occupational Alliance for Risk Science (OARS), is a collaborative initiative with the goal of promoting worker health protection through increased access to high quality occupational exposure limits, enhancements in methods for establishing exposure guidelines and education and training in occupational risk assessment methods. OARS serves as the home for the OARS Workplace Environmental Exposure Levels (OARS WEELs) developed through the work of the WEEL Committee. OARS is managed by the 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization Toxicology Excellence for Risk Assessment (TERA) and is supported by a board of scientific advisors, the Alliance Advisory Board.