

The background of the slide is a photograph of a large industrial chemical plant. It features several tall, green cylindrical distillation columns, a complex network of pipes, and multiple levels of walkways with railings. The sky is overcast with grey clouds.

# WeylChem: Meeting Global Chemical Safety Regulations with SAP® Product Safety Management OnDemand

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**Company**

WeylChem Frankfurt GmbH

**Industry**

Chemicals

**Products and Services**

Advanced building blocks and intermediates for the agrochemical industry

**Web Site**

[www.weylchem.com](http://www.weylchem.com)

**SAP® Solutions**

SAP® Product Safety Management OnDemand solution



The key to effective agrochemicals is the right mix of active ingredients. WeylChem Frankfurt GmbH produces chemical intermediates for this purpose. It uses the SAP® Product Safety Management OnDemand solution to drive compliance with Registration, Evaluation, Authorization, and Restriction of Chemicals (REACH); Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA); and other regulations. The **software and regulatory content are delivered on demand**, minimizing IT cost and effort while providing full functionality.

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# Supplying specialty chemicals to the agrochemical industry

WeylChem was founded in 2007 as a spin-off from the Swiss chemical group Clariant SE. Working with around 1,300 substances, WeylChem produces and sells chemical intermediates primarily for the agrochemical industry. It also offers fine chemicals such as polymers, as well as paper and photographic chemicals. The company has a workforce of 750 and is headquartered in Frankfurt, Germany. Its production units are based in Griesheim and Höchst, Germany; Thann, France; Trissino, Italy; and Elgin, South Carolina, in the United States.

WeylChem uses a wide range of technologies to develop products whose synthesis involves various and complex reaction pathways. Individual production sites have established core technologies such as fluorination, oxidation, diazotation, exchange reactions, Grignard chemistry, and Ullmann coupling. In addition, all sites apply a variety of additional chemical reactions, creating an opportunity to flexibly allocate production to sites meeting both technology and customer requirements. Since custom manufacturing is the core of its activities, WeylChem has processes in place to safeguard intellectual property and ensure confidentiality.



**1300**  
Chemical  
substances used  
in production



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# Managing risk and compliance

The chemical industry is subject to strict legal requirements with regard to the handling and transportation of raw materials and products. All relevant data must be up-to-date and available at all times. Information, such as the ingredients of a substance or the regulations that apply to storage and transport logistics, must be available in the logistics process and printed clearly and correctly on data sheets and labels. Recent legislation like the Registration, Evaluation, Authorization, and Restriction of Chemicals (REACH); Globally Harmonized System (GHS) of

Chemical Classification and Labeling; and Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) require companies to track produced and imported quantities of hazardous substances.

Only an integrated software solution enables companies to master these challenges efficiently and cost-effectively. WeylChem was looking for a software solution to do just that – master these challenges with minimal disruption and risk.

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“We wanted to centralize the collection of data and establish an integrated approach to managing risk and compliance issues.”

Dr. Wolfgang Daub, Product Safety Manager, WeylChem Frankfurt GmbH



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# Enabling product safety compliance at a lower cost

WeylChem's former owner, Clariant, uses the SAP Environment, Health, and Safety Management (SAP EHS Management) application. "We were impressed with SAP EHS Management when we were part of Clariant, which is why we wanted to continue working with this solution," explains Daub.

WeylChem needed that same functionality, but at a lower cost and with minimal demand placed on its internal resources. This was made possible through the SAP Product Safety Management OnDemand solution. The solution supports its users in meeting worldwide product safety compliance requirements and is based on a usage-dependent pricing model.

The on-demand solution, which consists of software and regulatory content, enables a shared environment, health, and safety platform. It provides

a comprehensive regulatory database with more than 300,000 substances and groups and their identifiers, properties, and associated international regulatory data and lists, which are continually updated by SAP.

The solution is geared primarily toward the requirements of midsize enterprises that prefer the benefits of an on-demand solution. It also supports best-practice processes while offering the full flexibility of a traditional on-premise implementation of SAP EHS Management. "Fully outsourcing EHS operations was not an option for us since we work with sensitive data and we wanted to keep control in-house," Daub adds. "At the same time, SAP Product Safety Management OnDemand supports predefined processes that guide users through the relevant business workflow and speed up processing."





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# Saving time and money with an on-demand model

Once the management team had opted for SAP Product Safety Management OnDemand, the whole implementation process went very quickly. The project took less than three months, with only the transfer of complex data records taking a little more time. “We wanted to avoid changing systems after the spin-off to avoid extensive data transfers and training,” explains Daub. “That was not necessary with SAP Product Safety Management OnDemand. The user interface is familiar, and we were able to do the data migration with relative ease.”

The application has been working reliably and efficiently since its deployment. The short implementation phase was supported by preconfigured business processes and, above all, optimized coordination processes. “SAP has both the requisite technical and expert knowledge, which means that we are on the same wavelength,” says Daub. “It understands our particular requirements as well as the industry-specific concepts. We know that we can rely on SAP at all times.” Thanks to this experience and the user-friendliness of the software, the solution is a real hit with WeylChem’s business users.

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“I am not aware of any other provider apart from SAP that has such a good grasp of product safety operations and that is able to set up this kind of solution.”

Dr. Wolfgang Daub, Product Safety Manager, WeylChem Frankfurt GmbH



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# Automating product safety processes

WeylChem uses the software to track and report on its chemical substances. One aspect that sets the solution apart is its ability to keep up-to-date with regulatory changes. The vast number of global regulations means that manual data maintenance would create an immense amount of work and pose a high risk to data integrity.

The company makes full use of content in the regulatory database, which enables employees to create safety data sheets quickly and reliably. “We add new substances each day, and the software simplifies the recording of these,” Daub explains. “We determine all the relevant substance information and create a

corresponding new safety data sheet. The high degree of automation is key.”

The function for automatically sending safety data sheets to customers is a real bonus. Additionally, standardized interfaces enable data exchange with other SAP applications, such as those in sales. This is important, because constantly updated data on the quantities of the individual substances used must be available during the production and transportation of chemical intermediates. Also, the software automatically indicates if REACH-relevant registration limits are met through its substance volume-tracking feature.

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“As SAP is responsible for maintaining the solution, we rest easy knowing that we have access to a reliable and up-to-date platform.”

Dr. Wolfgang Daub, Product Safety Manager, WeylChem Frankfurt GmbH



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# Reducing costs and minimizing risks

WeylChem's users are very satisfied with the software. It supports predefined processes that guide them through the relevant business workflow based on their requirements. If they do have to call the help desk for subject-based and technical support, they receive quick and professional help.

With SAP Product Safety Management OnDemand, WeylChem also has access to around 9,000 regulatory-related phrases in 42 languages. These phrases are used for drawing up accurate and detailed safety data sheets and labels for hazardous goods, thus

enabling legally compliant formulations and adherence to international chemical laws.

Looking ahead, WeylChem can incorporate other research and production centers in its growing group into the solution. SAP Product Safety Management OnDemand is well equipped to deal with these demands, because it can be simply and flexibly expanded to include additional business units. It takes only a few clicks of the mouse to create new authorization groups and assign the corresponding substances to them.

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“SAP Product Safety Management OnDemand is the ideal solution for us. It reduces our costs considerably and minimizes regulatory risks – almost with no need for our own IT resources.”

Dr. Wolfgang Daub, Product Safety Manager, WeylChem Frankfurt GmbH

