

IOHA CB Position



- Ten years ago, in South Africa, IOHA presented with an opportunity to assist in the development of a chemical control 'tool'
- IOHA took that opportunity and is happy to say it has facilitated the development of today's Control banding techniques
- IOHA initiated and maintained efforts to hold International Control Banding Workshops (ICBW's) to elevate and unify CB techniques as part of a multinational cooperative effort
- However.....over time some concern has grown regarding "unqualified" support for the CB techniques
- Some history follows:



IOHA & CB: History

- **1999:** IOHA Board of Directors Meeting in Johannesburg
 - COSHH Essentials; paper version introduced and discussed
 - IOHA Board agrees to develop Control Banding (CB) concept
- **2000:** IOHA Agrees with ILO to Create Expert Group to Develop International Chemical Control Toolkit (ICCT)
- **2001:** IOHA Presents CB in Chiang Mai
 - 5th Meeting of WHO Collaborating Centres (WHOCC) Network
 - Task Force 10: Preventive Technologies; IOHA Co-Chair
- **2002:** IOHA Hosts 1st International CB Workshop in London
 - ILO Releases CD version of ICCT at 1ICBW
 - International Program on Chemical Safety adopts CB concept

IOHA & Control Banding: History



- **2003:** International Technical Group (ITG) Established
- **2004:** 2ICBW in Cincinnati
 - Heads of NIOSH & OSHA perform keynote, embrace CB
 - ITG Implementation Strategy drafted & ratified at 2ICBW
 - Twinning meeting in Utrecht brings in developing countries
- **2005:** 3ICBW in Pilanesberg at the IOHA 6th Conference
 - Expansion of range into Safety, Ergonomics, and Construction
- **2006:** 7th Meeting of the WHOCC in Stresa
 - WHOCC Work Plan's Activity Area 3: Practical approaches to identify and reduce occupational risks

IOHA Position Today



- The prevention of exposure to risks to health, safety and well being is one of IOHA's key objectives.
- There is no single such thing or methodology defined as “control banding”
- IOHA recognizes that control banding **techniques** offer a relatively simple, low-cost tool for preventing and controlling exposure to workplace risks
 - especially in sectors of industry and in countries where the services and expertise of occupational health and safety professionals may not be readily available or affordable.



IOHA Position

- IOHA supports the continued development and refinement of control banding methodologies as valuable tools for controlling exposure to chemical, biological, physical, ergonomic, safety and psycho-social risks in the workplace and the environment.
- In particular, IOHA supports the development of industry and occupation-specific applications of control banding
- IOHA recognizes that the further development and validation of control banding and related risk management and control measure information is essential for the successful implementation of exposure elements of the REACH legislation



IOHA Position

- IOHA recognizes and cautions that control banding methodologies do not provide an absolute solution for every occupational health and safety risk scenario
- It should be clear that control banding should incorporate and complement other more well-established exposure limit and assessment methodologies and control strategies and,
 - Control banding should not be considered a replacement for these methodologies
 - Users of control banding techniques must be informed clearly about the limitations of the method



IOHA Position

- IOHA supports continuing work to validate control banding methodologies and to calibrate them against existing more well-established assessment and control methodologies
- IOHA supports research to study and test situations where control banding has been implemented, to verify that the required degree of control has been achieved.
- IOHA supports the promotion of control banding methodologies to meet the needs of developing economies that do not have the necessary resources to implement engineering controls, by ensuring that control banding models include substitution by less hazardous agents and modifications to work practices



IOHA Position

- IOHA supports the organization of workshops, conferences and similar events to facilitate further development and refinement of fundamental control banding principles and applications, and to spread awareness of the benefits that control banding has to offer as a tool for improving the health, safety and welfare of workers worldwide.
- How we can do this in the future is part of the ongoing discussion.....