Verisk 3E Helps Global Flavor Company Bring Compliance and Innovation to the Table

“With Verisk 3E we were able to automate time consuming SDS authoring and updating processes. We are now able to author 300+ SDSs per month, representing a significant increase in both quantity and quality. We were able to refocus our internal resources as regulatory, scientific and even supplier data is easily loaded into SAP® versus having to collect it ourselves. Tracking and managing the constant changes to regulations required a lot of work on our side. Now Verisk 3E does that work for us.”

Overview
The client is a global leader in flavor, manufacturing, marketing and distributing spices, seasoning mixes, condiments and other flavorful products to the entire food industry – retail outlets, food manufacturers and foodservice businesses in more than 150 countries and territories.

The company is committed to continued quality, safety and material compliance for both consumers and employees. To improve its ability to comply with continually evolving global regulations including the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labeling of Chemicals (GHS), streamline hazard communication authoring processes, optimize its SAP Environment, Health, and Safety (EHS) platform productivity, drive product innovation and expand into new markets, the company turned to Verisk 3E™.

According to the client’s Regulatory Shared Services Manager, “Our collaboration with Verisk 3E as our regulatory content provider has allowed us to realize a streamlined and consistent Safety Data Sheet (SDS) authoring process for our products worldwide. We currently author at least 300 SDSs per month. Verisk 3E’s 3E Optimize™ quarterly product safety and scientific content updates and SAP integration tools ensure we have access to the latest regulatory changes. By transitioning the acquisition and indexing of vendor SDSs to Verisk 3E and using 3E Protect™ for SDS management, we were able to refocus internal resources on the incorporation and maintenance of data already indexed within SAP. And now we can call on Verisk 3E for expertise on various scientific and regulatory subjects such as toxicology, expert rules and global regulations.”

Client
Global manufacturer of spices, seasonings, condiments and food flavoring.

Industry/Market
Manufacturing, Food and Flavors

Challenges
• Keeping up with evolving GHS regulations
• Managing time consuming manual processes
• Ensuring accurate classifications, phrases and templates
• Obtaining and managing vendor SDSs

Solutions

Results
• Saved time and eliminated manual processes by automating SDS authoring and updates
• Increased quantity and quality of SDS authoring to more than 300 a month
• Utilized Verisk 3E’s rules, templates and phrases to stay current on compliance regulations
• Ease of integration with SAP solutions

“Intelligent compliance. Sustainable progress. A safer world.”
Facing Challenges

The company faced many challenges including keeping up with dynamic regulations in new markets, managing unwieldy manual hazard communication authoring processes, ensuring the use of accurate and up-to-date classifications, phrases and templates and obtaining and managing vendor SDSs. More recently, with the advent of GHS and an active agenda for growth through acquisition and geographic expansion, the challenges only mounted.

Prior to the introduction of GHS, the client was using an existing SAP EHS implementation to generate OSHA compliant SDSs for specific industrial products. The scope of the solution was limited to North America and OSHA regulations and specifically catered to their industrial business. Product classification was derived from individual component hazards and supplementary research as required.

Time consuming manual processes were employed as the company’s raw materials team had to collect a wide range of documents for an increasing number of products and ingredients and from a growing number of new vendors. Data extraction was largely manual and hazard classifications were based on vendor classifications as listed. Data was often duplicated or contradictory and took a great deal of time to reconcile and correct.

New acquisitions also required additional work. On top of existing authoring processes, the company needed to be able to absorb the acquired companies’ SDSs and interface with new vendors to obtain information. Further, expansion into European markets required SDSs in additional languages and in conformance with multiple sets of country specific regulations.

Finding Solutions

The adoption of GHS prompted the company to search for the most effective way to incorporate the latest requirements into the product classification process and produce and manage GHS compliant SDS documents and corresponding labels. After a thorough evaluation of vendors by the regulatory and IT project teams, the company selected Verisk 3E.

The company’s Process Thread Director: Commercial and Product Lifecycle Management, recounts, “We recognized the need for specialized expertise and solutions. We evaluated multiple companies, looking for a provider with established content for our industry specific requirements, including food and flavors. We needed regulatory content on components both with and without Chemical Abstracts Service (CAS) numbers that could be easily integrated into our existing SAP platform. The provider needed to be able to collect and make available relevant vendor data and supply additional support in the reclassification of existing products according to GHS standards. We were looking for a partner proficient in regulatory research, data management, SDS authoring and proactive product compliance. We found it in Verisk 3E.”

The company chose the following Verisk 3E solutions to solve its challenges:

- **3E Optimize Global Product Safety Data** – comprehensive, up-to-date global substance-level product safety data including more than 2,000 regulations spanning topics such as food, flavors, food contact, workplace safety, consumer products and classification and labeling including GHS.
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• **3E Optimize PCTEC Data** – comprehensive, up-to-date collection of Physical, Chemical, Toxicological, and Eco-toxicological (PCTEC) data encompassing hundreds of endpoints such as water solubility, carcinogenicity and bioaccumulation for hundreds of thousands of substances.

• **3E Global Content Manager** – powerful data loading and management tool enabling seamless integration of 3E Optimize chemical, food contact, cosmetics and transportation content into SAP.

• **3E Optimize Vendor SDS** – enables SAP users to seamlessly load and maintain vendor SDS documents and associated data directly into SAP EHS and S/4HANA® for product compliance. A single solution for obtainment, tracking, access and integration of vendor content.

• **3E Protect** – online access to a customer’s updated SDSs and site specific chemical inventory information 24-7-365. 3E Protect delivers optimized SDS and chemical compliance management and document obtainment, data indexation, secondary container label generation and reporting.

Achieving Results

“We partnering with Verisk 3E for the management and delivery of regulatory data, rules, templates and vendor information has had a positive impact on our GHS compliant SDS generation and management processes,” asserts the company’s Business Process Manager.

To improve compliance and enhance product and workplace safety while managing active acquisitions, new product development and global market expansion, the company must be prepared to respond to challenging and dynamic global regulatory requirements. Verisk 3E’s award winning content and decision support solutions facilitate informed decision making, consistent compliance practices and increased operational efficiency.

The company utilizes Verisk 3E’s industry leading content including accurate, up-to-date regulatory and scientific substance data, product data, vendor SDS data and compliance documents and dynamic global country and industry specific rules, SDS templates and multilingual phrases.

According to the company’s Regulatory Shared Services Manager, “Compliance is an absolute mandate. Verisk 3E’s continually updated content ensures we have the latest regulatory information available. It enables our teams to more efficiently formulate and distribute high quality products, advise our employees on the safe management of hazards and fulfill compliance obligations in all markets.”

She continues: “Verisk 3E has helped us leverage best practices for keeping up with changing regulations and utilizing rules, templates and phrases to produce accurate, compliant hazard communication documents.”

The client’s Business Process Manager adds, “With Verisk 3E we were able to automate time consuming SDS authoring and updating processes. We are now able to author 300+ SDSs per month, representing a significant increase in both quantity and quality. We were able to refocus our internal resources as regulatory, scientific and even supplier data is easily loaded into SAP versus having to collect it ourselves. Tracking and managing the constant changes to regulations required a lot of work on our side. Now Verisk 3E does that work for us.”
With Verisk 3E the client was able to:

- Introduce new processes for maintaining current regulatory data, templates and rules from various regulatory bodies into their production environment
- Identify, define solutions for and implement customizations for gaps in the rules and templates for SDS authoring
- Train relevant resources in the correct classification of products per GHS standards
- Introduce new processes for the collection and maintenance of vendor SDS data
- Establish authoring processes for European products requiring classification
- Establish processes to prioritize and re-author existing SDS documents
- Establish a solution and processes for printing compliant SDSs and labels
- Provide SDSs and labels in multiple languages
- Utilize Verisk 3E SDS authoring services for new acquisitions and new markets

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**About Verisk 3E**

Verisk 3E delivers intelligent compliance solutions that empower companies to reduce risk, drive continuous improvement and create new growth opportunities. For more than 30 years Verisk 3E has provided clients with the expertise, content, live 24-7-365 EHS support and award winning solutions required to increase chemical and workplace safety, improve product safety and stewardship, strengthen supply chain stewardship and optimize research and development decision support.

We are deeply committed to serving our more than 5,000 customers worldwide, including eight of the world's top ten retailers, nine of the world's top ten chemical manufacturers and seven of the world's top ten pharmaceutical companies. Global locations include our corporate headquarters in Carlsbad, California along with offices in Beijing, China; Bethesda, Maryland; Canton, Ohio; Copenhagen, Denmark; Frankfurt, Germany; Markdorf, Germany; Montreal, Quebec; Siegen, Germany; Sofia, Bulgaria and Tokyo, Japan.