

C&L Platform – Questions and Answers

What is the C&L Platform?

The C&L Platform is a web-based discussion forum, established by ECHA to assist registrants and notifiers of substances to the C&L Inventory in agreeing on entries to be included in the Inventory. Multiple different classifications have been notified for many substances and Article 41 of the CLP Regulation stipulates that “...where the notifications of classification and labelling to the C&L Inventory result in different entries for the same substance, the notifiers and registrants shall make every effort to come to an agreed entry to be included in the inventory...” The Platform is an easy solution for notifiers and registrants to contact each other and discuss the appropriate classification and labelling of their substances.

How can I access the C&L Platform?

The C&L Platform can only be accessed through the C&L Inventory and is only accessible to registrants and notifiers of substances to the C&L Inventory. When two or more different classifications have been notified for the same substance, a discuss button becomes available in the summary page for that substance in the C&L Inventory. Upon clicking this button, the users are guided to a login page where they enter the platform discussion room for that substance using their REACH-IT login details. Only those registrants and notifiers who have submitted a notification for this substance through REACH-IT can access the relevant discussion room. Discussion rooms for other substances are not available and they need to be accessed through their relevant C&L Inventory summary pages.

What should I do after reaching an agreement on the classification and labelling of my substance with other notifiers?

When an agreement on the appropriate classification has been reached, the notifiers must update their notifications accordingly through REACH-IT. When updating the notification, the notifiers should indicate that the update is as a result of an agreement reached through the C&L Platform by ticking the appropriate tick-box. All notification tools are compatible with one another when updating. The updated notification will be included in the C&L Inventory upon the next data refresh.

Can I use the C&L Platform without revealing my identity?

You will not have to reveal your identity to other participants. When you access a discussion room for the first time you can choose whether to post using an automatically generated alias or your real identity. The real identity is the name and surname provided in your REACH-IT user account details. Should you choose to post using an alias, you are presented with the option of continuing to post under the same alias or to use your real identity whenever you access the discussion room. Once you post using your real identity, you cannot revert back to using an alias and all your previous posts will be associated with your real identity. The moderators of the platform (members of ECHA staff) will have access to your real identity.

When accessing other discussion rooms, you are presented with the option of using an existing alias, your real identity or a new alias. The identity chosen in each discussion room is independent of other rooms.

I have been banned from a discussion room in the C&L Platform. What should I do now?

Users are expected to follow the terms of use of the C&L Platform and, for example, not post inflammatory messages or material of a commercial nature. Upon violation, users may be banned from a discussion room. A banned user cannot access the discussion room or post messages. When a banned user has been posting under an alias, they can opt to continue to post using their real identity or appeal to the C&L Platform moderators to repeal the ban. If a user has posted under their real identity and is subsequently banned, they will need to contact the platform moderators for access. A banned user will receive an email notification with instructions on how to contact the moderators.

Banning in one discussion room will not affect access to other rooms.

What is the role of ECHA in the platform?

ECHA hosts the C&L Platform and manages its functions, ensuring interlinks with the C&L Inventory and REACH-IT. Members of ECHA staff act as moderators, responding to reports of abuse by users and providing technical assistance to users. ECHA does not participate in and/or actively monitor on-going discussions in the C&L Platform.