2009 ICCA-LRI Workshop
Connecting Innovations in Biological, Exposure and Risk Sciences:
Better Information for Better Decisions

The fifth international workshop of the International Council of Chemical Association’s Long-Range Research Initiative (ICCA-LRI) was held June 16-17, 2009 in Charleston, South Carolina, USA. Three key discussion topics were:

• How data from the new toxicity testing technologies can be meaningfully interpreted
• How information about human exposures to chemicals must be improved
• How results from the new technologies can be effectively communicated to diverse audiences

Nearly 100 participants (See Pie Chart) from 15 different countries attended a mix of plenary presentations and breakout sessions. Attendees agreed that the new technologies are rapidly modernizing chemical testing and that the data will likely be considered in regulatory decision-making, including future initiatives for REACH in the EU and TSCA in the USA.

Workshop findings included:

• The new technologies can improve time and cost efficiencies for chemical testing, but they do not directly lead to better quality information.
• More information about human exposures to chemicals and the relevant susceptibility factors is needed to extend data from the new test systems to estimates of human health risks.
• Effective communication will be essential to establish trust among scientists, decision-makers and the general public and to foster acceptance of results from the new technologies.

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