



OUR RESPONSIBILITY TO YOU

SOME OF YOUR QUESTIONS ANSWERED

Q WHY DOES VERTELLUS PUBLISH THIS INFORMATION?

A Vertellus Specialities produces and handles hazardous substances and has a duty to provide this information to its neighbours.

Q WHAT WILL THE INFORMATION TELL ME?

A This information lays down what precautions you should take in the event of a major accident on site.

Q ARE THERE ANY PARTICULAR HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES AT VERTELLUS THAT I SHOULD BE TOLD ABOUT?

A The Control of Major Accident Hazards Regulations 2015 (COMAH) require companies who handle more than a specified amount of certain chemical substances to tell their neighbours about them. Vertellus has provided a Notification under Regulation 6 of these Regulations to the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) as to the hazard classification and amounts of Hazardous substances held on-site. In October of 2017 a Safety Report detailing how Vertellus safely operates the site was submitted to the HSE and the Environment Agency, who are jointly known as the Competent Authorities. The HSE have an electronic platform where members of the public can view dates and details of site visits :

<http://www.gov.uk/comah/index.htm>

Q WHAT IS THE NATURE OF MAJOR INCIDENT THAT COULD OCCUR AT VERTELLUS?

A Due to the substances handled on site, the Major Accident Hazards include toxic cloud and fire & explosion hazards.

Q WHAT WARNING COULD VERTELLUS GIVE ABOUT A MAJOR ACCIDENT OCCURRING?

A Public warning siren would be sounded. The reverse of this page tells you what to do if you hear it.

Q HOW WILL I KNOW WHAT THE VERTELLUS SIREN SOUNDS LIKE?

A We have a distinctive, very loud, continuous siren, that will ensure that people within the immediate vicinity can hear any warning from Vertellus above the normal hub-bub of daily working life. Testing the public siren monthly ensures that people will recognise the sound.

Q WHAT ARRANGEMENTS ARE VERTELLUS REQUIRED TO MAKE TO DEAL WITH MAJOR ACCIDENTS?

A The COMAH Regulations 2015 require that Vertellus produce an internal emergency plan. Vertellus have liaised with Merseyside Fire & Rescue Service to produce this internal plan.

Q WHAT ABOUT OFF-SITE EMERGENCY PLANNING?

A Merseyside Fire & Rescue, in their role as Emergency Planning Authority have prepared an external emergency plan to deal with major accidents and minimise their effects.

The public warning Alarm is tested on the 1st Saturday of every month at 10:00 am. There are 4 sirens that are sounded for 30 seconds each.

SUBSTANCES USED AT VERTELLUS

SUBSTANCE CLP HAZARD CATEGORIES

CHLORINE H2, P4, E1

Normally a gas, chlorine has the familiar odour of bleach, similar to the smell of public swimming baths. In concentrated form it is hazardous to health & environment. Release of this would lead to a toxic gas cloud

BROMINE H2, E1

A mobile dark red fuming liquid giving off a toxic brown vapour with a pungent smell similar to chlorine.

PHOSGENE H2

A gas with an aroma of musty hay, it is a hazardous product and can be fatal.

OLEUM H3

Is a concentrated form of sulphuric Acid. If spilt in large enough quantities, it can give off dense white fume which is hazardous to health

In the event of an incident, exposure to these substances may lead to long-term effects on people and the environment



YOUR QUESTIONS ANSWERED Cont.

Q WHAT ABOUT OFF-SITE EFFECTS?

A Vertellus is designated as a domino site. This means a major accident at a COMAH site may be triggered by an incident at another COMAH site. The nearest domino site to Vertellus is Univar. The initiating event may not necessary be a major accident but is from another COMAH site involving a defined dangerous substance.

**IF YOU WOULD LIKE FUTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT THE COMPLIANCE MANAGER AT THE ADDRESS BELOW:
Vertellus Specialities UK Ltd Lower Road, Halebank, Widnes, Cheshire, WA8 8NS Telephone 0151 422 3265**



If the public siren is sounded.



Tune into Radio Merseyside (FM 95.8MHz – AM 1485 KHz – DAB) or Radio City (FM 96.7 MHz – DAB) which will be used to broadcast information or instructions. Please do not telephone Vertellus site in order to keep the lines free for the use of the Emergency Services.



Go immediately indoors and stay indoors.



Do not go searching for absent family. Leave children at school where they will be cared for.



Shut doors & windows and close off any ventilation.



Wait for the “ALL CLEAR” message and follow any further instructions. The “ALL CLEAR” will be broadcast via the local Radio and TV stations.

If you hear the sirens remember the message:

GO IN – STAY IN – TUNE IN

GO INSIDE, you will be safer there, **STAY INSIDE**, until you are told it is safe to come out, **TUNE IN** to the radio where information and instructions will be broadcasted.

Your co-operation with instructions or requests of the Emergency Services is essential

