



The Confederation of European Pest management Associations (CEPA) calls on the European legislator to consider measures to protect the general public from the risks of unmonitored Internet access to and subsequent use by unqualified individuals of Biocides designed for professional use only.

BACKGROUND

In order to guarantee the safe use of biocides, European legislators have introduced increasingly stringent conditions for their authorisation, distribution, sale and application by approved professionals.

However, cyber technology has given birth to new distribution systems that appear to be beyond legal control. With the arrival of online sales it has become a real challenge to organize quality and safety monitoring of products.

It goes without saying that all the measures designed to guarantee the safe use of biocides fall short if anyone can buy biocides on the Internet and subsequently use them without any form of training or supervision.

ISSUE

Recent media reports have alerted public opinion to the sale of fake pharmaceuticals via the Internet and have exposed the problems they create for authorities as well as the danger they represent for citizens.

Unfortunately, the professional urban pest management sector has not been spared of this practice and the dangers it entails. More and more webpages are being devoted to the sale of biocides. This has resulted in the occurrence of two serious risks, on the one hand the distribution and sale of fake products and on the other the distribution and sale of biocides which are intended for professional use only.

The Confederation of European Pest management Associations (CEPA) believes that this practice is contrary to the objectives that led to the introduction of the Biocidal Products Regulation.

CEPA POSITION

CEPA wishes to appeal to the European legislator to consider measures to protect the general public from the risks of unmonitored Internet access to and subsequent use by unqualified individuals of Biocides designed for professional use only.

CEPA believes that more stringent custom controls during shipping should be considered as well as steps to facilitate and expedite criminal offence procedures against offenders.

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The Confederation of European Pest Management Associations (CEPA) is based in Brussels and represents the European professional pest management industry. It unites and federates 20 national associations as well as associates from international pest management servicing companies, manufacturers and distributors