



STRASBOURG, 11/02/08

Note for the Editors: The European Directorate of the Quality of the Medicines & HealthCare (EDQM) wishes to announce the launch of a French-language version of its web site. On the web site, there is information on the missions of the EDQM, the activities of the European Pharmacopoeia, the certification of substances for pharmaceutical use; presentation of activities relating to the control of medicines, blood transfusion and organ transplantation. The Council of Europe handed over these last two activities to the EDQM in 2007. The web site is also intended to be used as a support for interactive and worldwide exchanges with pharmaceutical professionals involved in the quality of medicines and healthcare. For more information, please go to: www.edqm.eu.

THE EDQM LAUNCHES A FRENCH-LANGUAGE VERSION OF ITS WEB SITE

Taking into account the increasing activities of the EDQM and the need to provide information to the widest possible audience, the EDQM decided in 2007 to completely re-examine the content and presentation of its web site and to propose a multiple language web site. The first step was the launch of the newly redesigned web site in the English-language in September 2007. This week, the EDQM is launching the French-language web site in line with the official language policy of the Council of Europe.

The web site is accessible at: www.edqm.eu, and has information on the EDQM's activities listed under six sections:

- the 'EDQM', what are its missions, its history, its organisation and where it sits within the Council of Europe;
- 'European Pharmacopoeia': this section details the latest news, the bodies, statutes and the working methods of the European Pharmacopoeia and how to take part in its work;
- 'Control of Pharmaceutical Substances' explains how the procedure of certification of substances for pharmaceutical use works, what its role is within European regulations as compared to filing a marketing authorisation application (MAA), details how to make an application, and provides information on or alerts issued following pharmaceutical site inspections;
- 'Control of Medicines' outlines all the programmes co-ordinated on a European scale by the EDQM and the work performed by the European Network of the Official Medicines Control Laboratories (OMCLs). One programme, the Proficiency Testing Studies (PTS) programme, is open to all laboratories;
- the 'HealthCare' section describes the programmes under blood transfusion and organ transplantation, as well as providing the resolutions and recommendations;
- the 'Products & Services' section contains information on publications and paying services, as well as a series of free publications (guidelines, resolutions, recommendations, proceedings of conferences, etc), which are available to download.

The 'News' section, with RSS* feeds, allows visitors to follow closely the latest EDQM news. To receive the RSS feeds requires subscribing free. On every page of the web site, there is at all times access to the section on 'Events', to the EDQM's free databases (Knowledge, Certification and Reference Standards) and to the online version of purchased publications (European Pharmacopoeia, Pharmedica and List of Standard terms). The user support service 'HelpDesk' will be available in the French language at a later date.

[A political organisation set up in 1949, the Council of Europe works to promote democracy and human rights continent-wide. It also develops common responses to social, cultural and legal challenges in its 47 member states.](#)

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*Really Simple Syndication