



**PRTRs:
International
PRTR Work**

International PRTR Work



OECD Task Force on PRTR Release Estimation Techniques (RETs)

- ☒ U.S. is the chair
- ☒ Three meetings held to date

Work with other countries

- ☒ Thailand, South Africa

OECD RET Task Force



Resource Compendium of Release Estimation Techniques

- ☒ Part 1: point sources
- ☒ Part 2: diffuse sources
- ☒ Part 3: transfers (new item)

Clearinghouse of RETs

- ☒ Enable searches for RETs by chemical, industry, process, plus additional information available

OECD RET Task Force



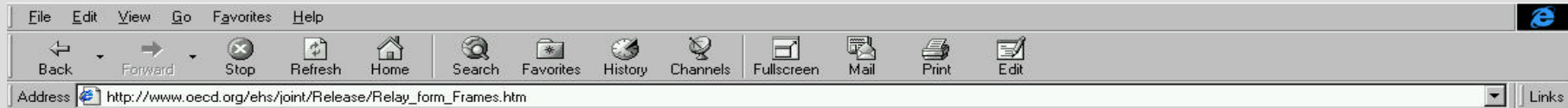
Review Release Estimation Techniques

- ☒ 5 categories of techniques identified
- ☒ Provide guidance on evaluation of RETs

Guidance on Developing RET Communication Tools

- ☒ OECD country steps to provide guidance to industry and to communicate with public

E-mail Relay



Task Force on PRTR Release Estimation Techniques

Email relay form and guide



Password Protected Area

Please note that the documents accessed from this page are intended only for participants in OECD's Task Force on PRTR Estimation Techniques and its subsidiary bodies, and are not for general distribution.

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What is the relay?

The principal aim of the email relay is to enhance the communication and transparency of information between Member countries on PRTR release estimation techniques. The email relay should be regarded as an important communication tool that will keep Members more informed about RET activities in other countries and as a mechanism to pose questions and search for relevant information on release estimation techniques developed or under development.

How to use the relay

The relay should be used to obtain information, ask questions and to provide information about current activities or, for instance, someone may need information on whether estimation techniques exist for a particular process or industry. Findings and documents published could be distributed to the group. Requests for information about data availability for a technique or method, etc.

Environment Australia set up the relay for Task Force Members. It is to be used by Members to seek information or advice and to provide information about PRTR release estimation techniques. The recommendation to establish an informal communication mechanism was made at the 1999 Canberra Workshop Release Estimation techniques. The system will not be managed by the Secretariat *per se*. It should be regarded as a service available to Task Force Members and other release and transfer estimation technique experts.

Want to send an email to the relay? Click here:
prtr_ret-list@erin.gov.au

How to write the subject line?
Find out [here](#).

To add or change your address, contact:
Judy Johnson (Judy.Johnson@ea.gov.au) and
Alison McKenzie (alison.mckenzie@ea.gov.au)

Who's on the relay?
See the list of members [here](#).

Email Relay

The subject line of the email is of key importance to hone in on exactly what is needed and signal those on relay whether is something useful to them or not. It is imperative that the following categories be used for an effective *triage* of messages.

The subject line contains a **one word** descriptor for each of the following categories.

The first three categories are typed in the subject box of all emails.

Categories 4-8 are used to more closely describe the content of the email.

The following order is used according to the content of the message or question to be relayed.

If no response to your message is forthcoming, a second message stating *second notice urgent response needed* can be sent.

[Examples](#) of possible subject lines are provided below.

| Category and description | Word to type in subject box |
|--|--|
| 1. Question or Information Does the email contain a question or information to the relay? | Question or Information |
| 2. Sector Which sector is addressed in the message: industry, agriculture, traffic, nature, SMEs, etc? | Industry or agriculture or traffic or nature or SMEs or another sector of your choice |
| 3. Point source or Diffuse source Does the email address a point or diffuse source of pollution? | Point or Diffuse |
| Use the following categories to provide more specific information on the content of the email | |
| 4. Chemical Does the message address a specific chemical or substance? | Name of chemical |

Work with other countries



Thailand

- ☒ Strong commitment to establish PRTR system
- ☒ Training provided at industrial parks on how to estimate releases and transfers of chemicals

South Africa

- ☒ Tour of U.S. planned for Spring 2002
 - ☒ Visit EPA, manufacturing sites, mining sites