



France Chimie - MASE and SCC Declaration of equivalence

France Chimie - MASE (France), SSVV (The Netherlands) and CSM (Belgium) share the ambition of creating a common set of health and safety tools at a European level. This declaration of equivalence can be placed within that context.

The signatory parties agree that, even though their referential guides are not identical, they pursue similar goals and set similar requirements for the qualifications of the workers concerned. A comparative study from 2019 on the referential guides of France Chimie (DT40, version 8) and SSVV/CSM (Explanation of VCA attainment and test criteria, version 2017 2.0) confirms this.

The signatory parties declare that workers have equivalent health and safety skills and knowledge if they hold one of the following diplomas:

- France Chimie MASE system: N1/N2 (DT40, version 8)
- VCAP system: B-VCA/VOL-VCA diplomas (Explanation of VCA attainment and test criteria version 2017, 2.0)

This declaration of equivalence is only valid on the condition that the diplomas of the workers on site are associated with company certification according France Chimie - MASE (version 2014) or VCA Petrochemicals (version 2017/6.0).

This means that a company with MASE certification can only have workers with valid N1 or N2 diplomas. A company with VCAP certification can only have workers with valid BVCA or VOL-VCA diplomas.

Furthermore, workers can only be considered to be equally qualified for work under the following conditions:

- B-VCA and VOL-VCA diplomas are valid for ten years, N1 diplomas for three years and N2 diplomas for four years. Holders of a B-VCA diploma older than three years and an VOL-VCA diploma older than four years, will have to renew their diploma in order to conform to the French durations of validity in the case of work in France.
- Holders of an VOL-VCA diploma must master the French language.
- In order to guarantee communication without language barriers, appropriate measures should be put in place.

Finally, the validity of the diplomas can be checked as follows:

- France: on the diploma cards.
- The Netherlands and Belgium: in the Central Diploma Register (CDR, <u>https://cdr.ssvv.nl/</u> and <u>https://csm-examen.be/cdr</u>).

This declaration does not intend to replace the diplomas from the respective home countries.

The signatory parties will inform their members of the content of this declaration. They will evaluate and review the declaration after one year following the date of signature, and afterwards every three years or if requested by one of the parties.

The signatory parties retain the right to make changes in their own contractor safety, health and environment management systems. They will inform the other signatory parties of any changes.









Marseille, September 4th 2020

Signatory parties:

France



Didier Méné Président de MASE

The Netherlands



Ton Jeen Chairman of the SSVV Board

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Philippe Prudhon Directeur technique de France Chimie (ex-UIC)

Belgium

Kris de Meester General manager of CSM