

## Pre-Conference Course Descriptions

### **Will you take the RiskChallenge? An Interactive, Educational Simulation of the Human Health and Ecological Risk Assessment Process**

For many years, assessing risks to human health and the environment has been a key element for decision-making relative to the production, use and distribution of chemicals. RiskChallenge is an interactive, hands-on educational simulation designed for small teams to conduct hypothetical, yet realistic human health and ecological risk assessments for use in chemical management decision-making. The objective of the simulation is to allow participants to experience the risk assessment process and its many facets, to include the collection, analysis and use of exposure and hazard data. The course is designed to be of benefit to those with or without experience in the conduct of risk assessment.

The exercise begins with an overview of risk assessment, both for human health and ecological receptors. After the preliminary instructions, a team or teams of **“stakeholders” are assembled and provided with a chemical registration “scenario.”** The scenario outlines the main focus of the exercise, its context in regards to the chemical management decision-making process, and the amount of time and funds (i.e., resources) available for the exercise. Participants are asked to formulate the problem, assess the exposure and hazard data, characterize risks, and make a risk management recommendation with the allotted resources. Finite funding and time are incorporated as constraints on the collection and use of data needed for the analysis with the intent to simulate constraints common to actual risk assessments. At the end of the exercise, teams report on their findings and discuss openly the key decisions they made during the process, including what information they purchased and why. The course will be four hours in length with one break, and involve active and hands-on participation from attendees for most of that time period.