



Merry Christmas to
all IMDS users
and best wishes for
2004.

Partner announcements – Training partners on the new IMDS Service pages

Concerning IMDS Trainings we are happy to introduce our certified training partners to you:

MDSMap, an alliance between SEML and TetraTech:

MDSMap is our training partner for Hungary, Turkey, the UK and the US. You can find more information at <http://www.mdsmap.com>.

Freund+Dirks GbR,

Freund+Dirks is our training partner for Austria, Belgium, France, Germany, Hungary, Sweden and Switzerland. You can find more information at <http://www.freund-dirks.de>.

Both companies provide classroom training and In-house training. In addition, a new online training course is being developed together with MDSMap. A partner listing can be found under <http://www.mdsystem.com/services>.

IMDS eLearning ... coming soon – www.imds-elearning.com

IMDS-eLearning is the innovative new online training programme for IMDS users worldwide. It provides complete flexibility and control of the time and place in which you choose to be trained giving a fully interactive IMDS experience. IMDS-eLearning is an excellent addition to the existing instructor-led IMDS training sessions. It relies on a range of teaching modes:

- Practice building MDSs
- Participation in carefully designed case studies
- Use of the IMDS Training Server
- A series of exercises and tests
- Simulations of common IMDS tasks
- Access to a downloadable user guide, help files and a full glossary of IMDS terminology
- Full administration, reporting and documentation capabilities
- Technical support service

IMDS-eLearning been developed by MDSMap, the leading source for ELV and IMDS training and services in the UK and US, in partnership with EDS, the developer and administrator of the International Material Data System, and The Emdicum Group, an industry leader in online and instruction training development for business and industry.

IMDS History

June 2000

IMDS goes on-line.

July 2001

Fiat joined the IMDS.

December 2001/January 2002

A questionnaire was put on-line about users' requirements – the results are available at <http://www.mdsystem.com/imds/html/admin/quest/questionnaire.jsp?language=en>.

July 2002

Toyota joined the IMDS.

September 2002

Mitsubishi joined the IMDS.

October 2002

Mazda joined the IMDS.

March 2003

Nissan joined the IMDS.

March 2003

Fuji Heavy Industries joined the IMDS.

June 2003

Results of the second online questionnaire are available at: <http://www.mdsystem.com/imds/html/admin/quest/questionnaire.jsp?language=en>.

July 2003

Suzuki joined the IMDS.

July 2003

Isuzu joined the IMDS.

Today

60,245 users registered from 20,952 companies

The course is designed for all users of IMDS including IMDS coordinators and client managers and other personnel requiring a detailed knowledge of the principles and functionality of the system. Staff involved in purchasing, sales, quality, materials and parts engineering, environmental and other departments will find this training programme an invaluable resource.

IMDS-eLearning will be accessible via www.imds-elearning.com website. Initially available in English, the programme will evolve in coming months to add other languages including German, French and Spanish.

The price per user starts at €330 (around \$420). However, users can take advantage of our early bird offer of €314 (\$399). If you have any additional questions, please contact info@imds-elearning.com.

IMDS Changes in Release 2.1

- ✓ **MDS Search** – Default Search Option 'all' has been changed to 'own' as MDS origin, i.e. if not changing the pre-selected search conditions the system searches for 'own' MDS. IMDS only transfers a maximum of 500 hits to the result list when searching. In case 500 hits are exceeded the user will get informed by a popup-message and it is recommended to define further search options.
Some background for better understanding why these changes of MDS Search were introduced: Searching for all MDS without any search specification is not recommended because of the amount of data to be transferred through the internet and not more data should be provided than can be processed by the user. Actually 500 is already a quite high number of MDSs to go through. The goal with this change on the MDS search engine is to avoid unintended search operations and therefore, reducing infrastructure load.
- ✓ **New Languages available** – The IMDS application is now also available in Korean language.
- ✓ **Analysis** – General redesign of the IMDS Analysis Menu (Detailed MDS-Analysis and Certificate of expenditure): Improvement of functionality, presentation and interaction between the IMDS screens (options to go back and forth between the different views). Additional function to export analysis results to a file (Detailed MDS-Analysis result and List of MDS applying to Certificate of expenditure analysis). Possibility to analyze for deactivated substances and MDS in the Certificate of expenditure analysis.
- ✓ **New Browser** – Netscape Version 7.1 is from now on IMDS supported. The older Netscape Version 4.x and Microsoft Internet Explorer Release 4.01 Service Pack 1 are not IMDS-supported anymore. In addition a survey showed that Netscape Versions 4.x are rarely used. See as well on the public pages – System - System Requirements. IMDS checks when accessing the web application if a valid Browser version is used and informs in a message in case it is not.

Users' Echo – emails to IMDS

Very often we get questions about all kind of problems – in this area we will answer some of the emails.

Dear IMDS team,

We are desperate for more information on the IMDS and its usage – is there any documentation available on the IMDS?

Regards,

Dear IMDS user company,

The up-dated manual be found under www.mdssystem.com → Public Pages → FAQ → Technical questions → Is there any IMDS Training Material available?

Best regards, the IMDS team

Who to contact at the automobile manufacturers?

BMW

Dr. K. Oldenburg
karin.oldenburg@bmw.de

DaimlerChrysler

Dr. H. Traiser
helmut.traiser@daimlerchrysler.com

Fiat

Dr. C. Berruti
claudia.berruti@fiat.com

Ford

Dr. B. Schmitz
bschmitz@ford.com

Fuji Heavy Industries

K. Amada
amadak@gun.subaru-fhi.co.jp

General Motors

A. Heymann
antje.heyman@de.opel.com

Isuzu

O. Sakamoto
imds-info@notes.isuzu.co.jp

Mazda

K. Okazaki
okazaki.k@lab.mazda.co.jp

Mitsubishi

T. Isogai
t-isogai@mitsubishi-motors.co.jp

Nissan

T. Sagawa
t-sagawa@mail.nissan.co.jp

Porsche

Prof. Dr. D. Gruden
dusan.gruden@porsche.de

Suzuki

H. Kato
katojh@hhq.suzuki.co.jp

Toyota

Dr. M. Desaegeer
muriel.desaegeer@toyota-europe.com

Volkswagen

H. Lüssmann-Geiger
heiko.luessmann-geiger@audi.de

Volvo

J. Lundström
jlundst2@volvocars.com

Dear IMDS team,

Is there any possibility to speed up data entry into IMDS?

Best regards,

Dear IMDS user company,

a faster alternative for data input into IMDS is the IMDS-a2. It is a small Java application which supports the following features which might be of interest to you:

- Robust Network interfaces compared to web browsers like IE or Netscape
- Compression of the data before the transfer from your company to the IMDS
- Pure transfer of the information data (in contrast to a web browser which also transmits html and JavaScript data)
- Efficient data input through Drag and Drop, Search windows can remain open, etc.

If you are interested in this tool you can download it free of charge at http://services.mdsystem.com/imds_a2.jsp and test it. The Demo version does have full functionality except saving the data or transfer of these data to the IMDS.

Best regards, the IMDS team

News in brief

Additional tool IMDS-a2 will soon be available in Spanish and Portuguese

The language choice for the IMDS Advanced Accelerator (IMDS-a2) will be broadened: The tool is now available in English and German but soon the users will also be able to work in Spanish and Portuguese language on the IMDS-a2.

IMDS Newsletter – next issue

Overview on the new IMDS Services and Tools

IMDS Help Desk support

European help desk – imds-eds-helpdesk@eds.com

Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4.30 p.m. (GMT+1) at +49 (0) 42152 56 666

Italian help desk – imds-fiat@eds.com

Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 6.30 p.m. (GMT+1) at +39 (0) 80 38 53 116

Japanese help desk – jpimds@deds.com

Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 5.00 p.m. JST (GMT+9) at +81 3 3797 4212

North American help desk - imds-eds-helpdesk-nao@eds.com

Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. (EST) at +1 717-506-1461

IMDS Newsletter – your participation

Please submit articles and comments concerning IMDS and environmental issues for this Newsletter. For suggestions, further information and questions, please contact imds-newsletter@eds.com

Who to contact?

- Commercial and strategic IMDS issues → Steering Committee
- Operational technical issues → Helpdesks
- Operational content related issues (e.g. how do I report a certain material) → Contacts of OEMs as published on public pages:

Please help us with your feedback. If you would like to contribute to this Newsletter with articles and comments concerning the IMDS and environmental issues in your company, please send an email to imds-newsletter@eds.com

About this Newsletter

The Steering Committee will quarterly provide the Newsletter to all IMDS Users as a source of information about the different IMDS functionalities and support.

This Newsletter is designed to objectively inform about the IMDS.

If you have any questions or comments about this Newsletter, please send an email to:

imds-newsletter@eds.com

Editorial

The collection of the contents of this IMDS Newsletter is carried out on behalf of the IMDS Steering Committee by Ilona Pollok, EDS.

