

## 6. Supply and Production Chain

A particular chemical compound is always produced in at least one specific production unit which is located in a plant. The plant is the smallest administrative unit.

If a production unit is part of a multi-purpose plant, the set-up of the pieces of equipment actually used is a temporary one and specified in the appropriate description of the technological process.

A plant may contain several production units or - in the case of a multi-purpose plant - pieces of equipment used for other purposes. It is, therefore, necessary to define those production units and pieces of equipment within the plant which are actually - continuously or temporarily - used for the production of the chemical compound in question and which are, therefore, relevant in case of an inspection.

During the production of the chemical compound, pieces of equipment and installations outside the plant actually producing the chemical are also - either continuously or temporarily, directly or indirectly - used and are, therefore, also relevant in case of an inspection; they are usually part of the works infrastructure.

The totality of all the pieces of equipment and installations - either inside or outside the plant - relevant in case of an inspection is covered by the technical term "Supply and Production Chain". This chain extends from the raw materials storage facilities to the finished products warehouse as well as to the solid and liquid waste disposal, the waste gas purification and the central effluent treatment; it is usually specified in the respective description of the technological process to be found in the plant files.

The supply and production chain may include the following pieces of equipment, installations or systems:

- Raw materials storage facilities and tank farms
- Raw materials transport systems and transfer lines
- Intermediate storage spaces or tanks for raw materials
- Reactors, vessels and associated process equipment
- Receivers, columns, heat exchangers, condensers, reboilers, filters, driers and pumps
- Process and utility lines and valves