

## Feature Story

### AltTox.org Celebrates One Year Anniversary

Nearly one year ago, the online platform for stakeholders interested in advancing non-animal methods of toxicity testing, AltTox.org, was launched. These stakeholders work in diverse sectors (including industry, academia, government, non-governmental organizations) and in many countries around the globe. AltTox is a unifying tool for online information exchange and discussion in the rapidly changing fields of *in vitro* and *in silico* toxicity testing.

At the one-year mark, we now have forum postings that have been read over 200,000 times. We've seen a 75% increase in monthly visits to the site since we began collecting statistics in January of this year. Forty [Way Forward commentaries](#) have been written by invited experts on topics ranging from various toxicity endpoints and tests (eye irritation, acute systemic toxicity, etc.), to emerging technologies (omics, (Q)SARs, etc.), to relevant programs and policies.

What's in store for AltTox's second year? We are planning to launch several new forums tailored to working groups and others tackling specific challenges. These "communities of practice" will be open to participation from all professionals interested in the topics, thereby enriching the ongoing efforts.

AltTox is supported through a collaboration of The Humane Society of the United States (HSUS) and the Procter & Gamble Company (P&G). Distinguished subject matter experts serve as members of the website's editorial board and as moderators of the interactive forums.

We welcome comments or suggestions on enhancing AltTox's value to the community of professionals working in the field on non-animal methods of toxicity testing. We can be contacted via [info@alttox.org](mailto:info@alttox.org) or our [Website Feedback](#) form.

## Forum Postings

Some of the recent posts on the AltTox forums include the following:

### Toxicity Endpoints & Tests forum

- [Newly Approved Ocular Safety Methods Reduce Animal Testing](#)
- [Joint Research Initiative \(JRI\) between COLIPA and the European Commission](#)
- [ECVAM: new information on hepatotoxicity/metabolism-mediated toxicity](#)

### Emerging Technologies forum

- [New CompTox RFA on Pathways of Developmental Toxicity](#)
- [Protocols for neural progenitor cells and recombinant gonad organ cultures](#)
- [ToxCast](#)

### Programs & Policies forum

- [Proposal to revise EU animal experiments Directive 86/609](#)
- [EC funding for in vitro tox for PhD and Post-Doc researchers](#)
- [New EU website for tracking 3Rs methods in the validation-acceptance pipeline](#)
- [Framework for the International Cooperation on Alternative Test Methods \(ICATM\)](#)

### Overarching Challenges & Opportunities forum

- [Debates](#)
- [SOT President's reaction to NRC's "Toxicity Testing in the 21st Century"](#)
- [Remembering Bjorn Ekwall](#)
- [Russell and Burch's 3Rs: 50th Anniversary](#)

Be sure to visit the forums, respond to previous postings, or start a new message thread.

[Enter Forums >>](#)

## New and Updated Information

The AltTox.org Management Team and Editorial Board strive to give readers the most up-to-date summary information related to non-animal methods of toxicity testing. Check out our latest material:

### In the Spotlight

- [Test Method Validation: What's in the Pipeline for 2008](#)
- [NTP Holds Meeting on High-Throughput Screening](#)

### Toxicity Testing Resource Center

- Informational Resources: [Meetings & Events](#), [3Rs Awards](#), [Journals](#), [Education/Training](#), [Testing Supplies](#), [Cells, Tissues and Software](#), [Other Literature/Websites](#), and [Funding](#)

### Upcoming Events

Here are some of the many upcoming events listed on AltTox that may be of interest to our readership:

- 9<sup>th</sup> Annual ECOPA Workshop Cosmetics Directive, REACH legislation and novel Directive 86/609: realistic 2009/2013 - factual status?, November 29-30, 2008, Brussels, Belgium
- Society of Toxicology of Canada (STC) Annual Symposium 2008. Toxicity testing tomorrow: What does the future hold?, November 30-December 2, 2008, Montreal, Quebec, Canada
- TERMIS-NA 2008 Annual Conference & Exposition, December 7-10, 2008, San Diego, California, US
- Cell Based Assays in Drug Development, December 8-9, 2008, Washington, DC, US
- New Horizons in Toxicity Prediction, December 8-9, 2008, Cambridge, UK
- American Society for Cell Biology Annual Meeting, December 13-17, 2008, San Francisco, California, US

[More Events >>](#)

### User Participation

We welcome your participation in the AltTox forums, as well as your comments and suggestions, which can be submitted by using the online [Website Feedback](#) survey, or by e-mailing [info@alttox.org](mailto:info@alttox.org). Please submit your suggestions for the Informational Resources or Events section to [info@alttox.org](mailto:info@alttox.org).

If you received this message from a friend, you can sign up for the AltTox.org newsletter by clicking [here](#).

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