

Customer information REACH

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On 1st of June 2007 Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006 concerning Registration, Evaluation, Authorization and Restriction of Chemicals¹ ("REACH") came into force. As a European regulation it is valid directly in all European Union member states.

REACH contains the following regulations:

1. From 1st of June 2008, manufacturers of substances, and importers of substances as such or of substances in preparations (mixtures) into the European Community (EC) and the European Economic Area (EEA) must register these substances with the European Chemicals Agency if the substances in question are manufactured or imported in quantities of at least 1 t/a and if they are not substances that are exempted from compulsory registration. So-called "phase-in substances" – these are, for example, substances that are shown on the existing substances list EINECS – can be pre-registered between June 1 and December 1, 2008. Pre-registered substances do not have to be registered until later, depending on the quantity manufactured/imported.
2. Suppliers of substances and preparations must provide the recipient with either a safety data sheet (Article 31) or safety information (Article 32). In certain cases, the safety data sheet will be supplemented by an annex ("extended safety data sheet") showing the relevant exposure scenarios.
3. Manufacturers and importers of articles that contain more than 0.1 mass percent per article of a substance on the "candidate list" shall provide the professional recipient and on request a consumer of the article with sufficient information to allow safe use of the article, including, as a minimum, the name of that substance. If all these articles contain more than 1 t/a a notification to the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA) is necessary, however, not before 1st of June 2011.
4. From 1st of June 2008, users of chemicals (substances and preparations/mixtures) – so-called "downstream users" – will have to comply with other obligations, but in some cases only after they have received an extended safety data sheet. Downstream users can provide appropriate information so as to assist the manufacturers of substances and importers of substances and preparations in registering them.

Regarding to our obligations as a so-called downstream user in the supply chain and the resulting precautions we can give you the following information:

You procure articles (not chemicals) from us which are not intended to release any substance under normal and reasonably foreseeable conditions of use. Consequently, the obligations in No. 1 and 2 above are not relevant here.

The candidate list* (date 28.Oct.2008) according to article 59 (1, 10) of Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006 („REACH“) has been published (see the website of the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA) [http:// echa.europa.eu/web/guest/candidate-list-table](http://echa.europa.eu/web/guest/candidate-list-table)). Currently we investigate our supply chain to gain information whether substances included on the candidate list are contained in the products or its packaging materials in a concentration above 0.1 % by weight. Based on this we will provide a suitable customer information soon.

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