

## REACH

[REACH Regulation \(EC\) No. 1907/2006](#) is designed to manage and control the potential hazards and risks to human health and the environment from the manufacture, import and use of chemicals within the EU and at the same time enhances the competitiveness of European industry by fostering innovation. REACH is an acronym for the Registration, Evaluation and Authorisation of CHemicals. A fourth stage of REACH is restriction.

The REACH Regulation gives greater responsibility to industry to manage the risks from chemicals and to provide safety information on the substances. Enterprises which manufacture or import more than one tonne of a chemical substance per year will be required to register it in a central database administered by the new European Chemicals Agency (ECHA).

The Agency, which is located in Helsinki, will act as the central point in the REACH system; it will run the databases necessary to operate the system, co-ordinate the in-depth evaluation of suspicious chemicals and run a public database in which consumers and professionals can find hazard information. The Agency will therefore manage and in some cases carry out the technical, scientific and administrative aspects of REACH so as to ensure consistency at Community level in relation to these aspects. The Agency shall provide the Member States and the Institutions of the Community with the best possible scientific and technical advice on questions relating to chemicals covered by the Regulation.

The Regulation also calls for the progressive substitution of the most dangerous chemicals when suitable alternatives have been identified.

REACH came into force on 1<sup>st</sup> June 2007 however the main titles of REACH will become enforced as from 1<sup>st</sup> June 2008 so as to allow a one-year period for the establishment of ECHA.

The following Legal Notices implement the requirements of this Regulation:

1. The Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals (REACH) Regulations, 2008 (*Legal Notice 61 of 2008*)
2. Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals Enforcement (E-REACH) Committee Regulations, 2008
3. Chemicals Co-ordinating Committee (Repeal) Regulations, 2008

Further guidance on REACH can be found on the [ECHA website](#). For any other information or advice you can always contact the REACH helpdesk at the MSA via the following email: [helpdesk.msa@msa.org.mt](mailto:helpdesk.msa@msa.org.mt)

## The risk of leaving registration until the last minute

The deadline for REACH registration remains the same - 30 November. There is no change. ECHA would like to highlight the risk of registering at the last minute (after 1 October). Companies that submit dossiers early (before 1 October) will get their Completeness Check result within 3 weeks and will have the time to resubmit. Should they fail the second time, they can even start the process again provided they are in a position to make a new submission before 1 December.

However, those submitting late will have only one chance to get through the entire registration process successfully. This is because for dossiers arriving after 30 September, ECHA examines the dossier on arrival, and, if the dossier is not complete, writes to the registrant before 1 March 2011. Companies then will get a reasonable deadline (typically a further four months) to provide the information requested by ECHA. If that information is not provided satisfactorily, then the registration has failed and there is no second chance. The company does not receive a registration number and the substance cannot legally be manufactured or imported in the European Union - in fact the manufacturing or import

since the registration deadline will have been illegal. Submitting early will prevent companies being in this uncertain situation; which could be a risk to their business.

This is why ECHA are recommending that companies do not leave it until the last minute.

## List of substances identified for registration in 2010

This is a list of substances that companies intend to register under REACH in 2010. It is based on feedback received from companies and registrations already submitted.

The list is published to give downstream users, manufacturers and importers the opportunity to check that registrations are being prepared for substances which need to be registered in 2010. This is important because substances that should be registered by the end of the year but are not, cannot legally be manufactured, imported or used within the EU after 1 December 2010.

You should consult the list if you are:

1- A downstream user who uses a substance:

- at more than 1000 tons per annum (tpa), or
- that is labelled as carcinogenic, mutagenic or toxic to reproduction (CMR Cat. 1&2/1A&1B) at more than 1 tpa, or
- that is labelled as R50/53 (very toxic to aquatic organisms, may cause long-term adverse effects in the aquatic environment) at more than 100 tpa, and
- that is not exempted according to Annexes IV or V of REACH, and
- that does not meet the criteria of Article 2 of the REACH Regulation.

2- A manufacturer/importer that makes/imports a substance which complies with the same criteria.

*N.B. The presence of a substance on this list means that at least one company has indicated its intention to register the substance in 2010 (as identified by the EC number*

and substance name). Consequently there should be less risk of disruption to the supply of this substance.

**If your substance is not on the list:**

Downstream users are urged to:

1. contact your supplier and enquire about their intention to register;
2. inform ECHA about your substance (EC number and name) by filling in the [webform](#).

Manufacturers/importers/Only Representatives are urged to:

1. inform ECHA of your intention to register by 30 November 2010 by filling in the [webform](#).

ECHA will periodically publish an update of the list.

Please note that:

- The list focuses on substances identified by their EC number or pre-registration list number and not on SIEFs;
- The list is solely based on the information provided by potential registrants and is not an exhaustive list of substances that must be or will be registered in 2010. Equally, ECHA can neither guarantee the accuracy nor the validity of the information contained in the list.

The list is available in the following formats:

- [pdf](#) ()
- [xml](#) ()



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