



**'REACH-ing Industry-  
The New European Chemical Legislation'**

***Preparing Maltese Industry  
to meet  
REACH requirements***

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# Outline

- ◆ REACH Implementation
- ◆ E-REACH Committee
- ◆ REACH Helpdesk
- ◆ REACH Awareness
- ◆ Communication Channels & Tools

# Current Situation in Malta

- ◆ The Malta Standards Authority:
  - ◆ Is the Competent body with respect to chemicals
  - ◆ Provides help to the economic operators
  - ◆ Has a good working relation with the Commission and the chemical operators
  - ◆ The technical knowledge is available and easily accessible

# Implementing REACH in Malta

- ◆ Strategy:
  - ◆ Built on existing structures
  - ◆ Implementing the legal provisions
    - ◆ LN 61/2008 (Implementation)
    - ◆ LN 207/2008 (E-REACH Committee)
  - ◆ Efficient dissemination of information amongst the parties involved (directly and indirectly)
  - ◆ Keeping the economic operators in the chemicals sector informed on their obligations

# E-REACH Committee

- ◆ The Committee was established to provide an effective:
  - ◆ Information flow between the different authorities/bodies affected by REACH
  - ◆ Coordination of enforcement
  - ◆ Utilisation of resources available
  - ◆ Support to the Risk Assessment and Socio-economic Analysis Committees

# E-REACH Committee (2)

- ◆ Members of the committee include:
  - ◆ The **Director responsible for chemicals within the Malta Standards Authority**, designated by the Chairman of that Authority, who acts as Chairman
  - ◆ The **Director (or his delegate) for environment protection**, designated by the Minister responsible for environment protection
  - ◆ The **Director (or his delegate) of the Market Surveillance Directorate within the Malta Standards Authority**
  - ◆ The **Comptroller of Customs** (or his delegate),
  - ◆ The **Occupational Health and Safety Authority** and the **Public Health Department** shall be consulted by the Committee in matters affecting their respective area of competence.
  - ◆ *The Chairman may also invite any other representatives as required by the Committee, to attend Committee proceedings without voting rights.*

# E-REACH Committee (3)

- ◆ To date five meetings were held.
- ◆ Main issues discussed:
  - ◆ Outcome of meetings attended at EU level
  - ◆ Chemical activities carried out by the Maltese Authorities
  - ◆ REACH enforcement – Market Surveillance plan
  - ◆ Co-ordination between MSA and Customs Department

# REACH Helpdesk

- ◆ National REACH helpdesk – FCPC unit (Regulatory Affairs Directorate) within MSA
- ◆ The MSA REACH helpdesk provides advice to local manufacturers, importers, downstream users and distributors on their respective roles, responsibilities and about guidance.

# REACH Helpdesk (2)

- ◆ Queries mainly received by:
  - ◆ Email: [helpdesk.msa@msa.org.mt](mailto:helpdesk.msa@msa.org.mt) &
  - ◆ Phone: +356 21242420
- ◆ Replies of MSA officials are mainly based on the REACH Regulation as well as from the following sources:
  - ◆ ECHA website: Information Pages; Guidance Documents; FAQs
  - ◆ Use of RHEP tool
  - ◆ Direct contact with ECHA
  - ◆ Other information & presentations provided during REHCORN Meetings

# REACH Helpdesk (3)

- ◆ MSA keeps record of all the emails received by saving replied queries as PDF files.
- ◆ The following information is inputted into a database available only to MSA officials:
  - ◆ Subject of the query;
  - ◆ Contact person/organisation details; &
  - ◆ Date/s of query received and replied.
- ◆ This database is mainly used for statistical purposes and to further build up a REACH contact list.

# Helpdesk Statistics (2)

- ◆ The queries received on the Maltese helpdesk mainly deal with the following issues:
  1. Pre-registration in practice
    - ◆ Use of REACH-IT for sign-up and pre-registration
  2. Roles & responsibilities under REACH
  3. Registration Deadlines
  4. Waste
  5. Plastic
  6. Borderlines issues: Pharmaceuticals/Pesticides/Biocides
  7. Article versus substance in special container
  8. Etc.

# REACH Awareness

- ◆ Our main objective is to ensure that that all manufacturers, importers and downstream users of chemicals are prepared, and fully aware of the impact this new legislation has on their business.
- ◆ At this stage our primary focus was to increase awareness on the first phase of REACH - the pre-registration phase.

# Communication Channels & Tools

- ◆ Various communication channels and tools are being used to present the main issues of REACH.
- ◆ MSA Web-site:
  - ◆ The REACH web-page is kept up-to-date with relevant information concerning REACH, including links to: Legal Notices; Guidance Documents; FAQs; Further Information; & other web-sites.
- ◆ Publications: REACH Brochure
- ◆ Events: Various information seminars & meetings with the industry and other interested stakeholders
- ◆ Visits to companies
- ◆ Local Press: Submission of articles concerning REACH.

Malta Standards Authority -

## Regulatory Affairs Directorate

[MSA](#) | [RAD Home](#) | [Updates](#) | [Helpdesk](#) | [Consultations](#) | [Eco-design](#)

**Link: <http://www.msa.org.mt/rad/chemicals/index.htm#REACH>**

## Chemicals

[Dangerous Substances and Preparations](#) | [Detergents](#) | [Explosives](#) | [Fertilisers](#) | [GHS](#) | [GLP](#) | **REACH** | [Repealed Legal Notices](#) | [Consultations](#)

### Overview

Chemical substances and preparations are the foundation of our world. Chemicals are part of our daily lives. They are useful in many different ways. All chemicals have different, desired or adverse, healing or harmful effects.

### REACH

|  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| <b>Information Document</b>  | <b>Keywords</b><br><br><a href="#">REACH Regulation (EC) No. 1907/2006</a> 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 <b>R</b> egistration, <b>E</b> valuation and <b>A</b> uthorisation of <b>C</b> hemicals. A fourth stage of REACH is restriction.<br><br>Download Document  |   |
| <b>Further Information</b>   | Information documents are available from here >>    |   |
| <b>Legal Notices Downloads</b>  | <b>FAQS</b>   | <b>Guidance Documents</b>  |

# Awareness Raising

- ◆ Work started in 2004 during the co-decision process
  - ◆ Joint working group with FOI
  - ◆ Information dissemination events, including co-operation with Malta Business Bureau
- ◆ Post-adoption the beginning of the challenge
- ◆ Two Twinning Light Projects for the capacity building of the REACH CA in Malta
- ◆ Information meetings
  - ◆ Stakeholder Groups
  - ◆ One-to-one meetings

# Awareness Raising Activities on Pre-Registration

- ◆ Publicity and awareness raising activities in 2008:
  - ◆ Information documents submitted via email to REACH stakeholders & government entities
  - ◆ Updating REACH web-page with various press releases & guidance documents especially related to the functioning of pre-registration
  - ◆ Pre-registration Seminar in collaboration with GRTU (May 2008)
  - ◆ Conference on REACH (November 2008)

# Future

- ◆ Completion of Pre-registration
- ◆ The beginning of the registration process for pre-registered substances
- ◆ Further direct assistance to stakeholders
- ◆ You are our clients – Do not hesitate to make use of our services