

What should my company do?

Create an inventory of all substances or substances in mixtures or articles you export to the EU/EEA. Check if the substances or uses in your inventory are **exempted** from registration under REACH.

Identify for each substance on its own or in a formulated product the **likely volume band per EU/EEA importer**:

If you export a chemical substance in your inventory to the EU/EEA > 1 tonne/year, ensure that your EU/EEA importer pre-registered it. If not, the EU/EEA importer or your Only Representative must register it. Only then you can start or resume exporting.

Consult the website of the European Chemicals Agency for information on the Regulation and study the guidance on relevant REACH obligations.

Prepare information for your EU/EEA importers or Only Representative.

What information is required for a registration?

REACH sets different information requirements (e.g. on hazards, use conditions & exposure) for chemicals manufactured or imported in different volume bands.

The hazard information of a chemical substance must be shared among all registering companies in so-called SIEFs (Substance Information Exchange Forums).

If a company uses information owned by another company, the information owner is entitled to compensation.

New information must not be generated by testing on vertebrate animals without an agreement from the European Chemicals Agency.

Where can my company find further information?

The REACH section on the website of the European Chemicals Agency gives an overview of the Regulation.

The website also provides:

- ▶ A **Navigator tool** which will assist importers and Only Representatives to find out their obligations and how to fulfil them
- ▶ Extensive **guidance** on REACH provisions
- ▶ **IT tools** for REACH uses and how to operate them

Frequently Asked Questions

- ▶ If you cannot find sufficient advice by consulting the Navigator, guidance documents or Frequently Asked Questions on the ECHA website, you may consult:
- ▶ Your **EU/EEA importers**: they are good sources for information on sector specific issues
- ▶ The **National helpdesk** in the country of your EU /EEA importer or your Only Representative (contact details are available on the ECHA website)

The REACH **helpdesk of the European Chemicals Agency** assists companies with:

- ▶ Questions regarding the registration of substances,
- ▶ the IUCLID5 tool

and gives advice to companies in non-EU countries

Please see the ECHA website :

<http://echa.europa.eu>



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REACH

EUROPEAN CHEMICALS LEGISLATION Information for Exporters to Europe

What should your company know?

REACH ME!

What is REACH?

REACH is a European Community Regulation on chemicals and their safe use. It deals with the Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemical substances.



European
Commission

Does REACH affect companies outside the EU?

No - but your exports may be affected if you or your customers export :

- ▶ *chemical substances* (e.g. base chemicals, specialty chemicals, metals, natural substances if they are chemically modified)
- ▶ *or mixtures* ("preparations") of chemical substances (e.g. cleaning products, formulated process chemicals, paints, motor oils)
- ▶ *or substances or mixtures in containers* (e.g. printer cartridges).
- ▶ *or articles which contain substances which are intentionally released* during their use (e.g. a fragrance in a scented eraser).
- ▶ *or contain substances which are on a candidate list of "substances of very high concern"*. This list is available on the website of the European Chemicals Agency under the section ECHA Chem.

http://echa.europa.eu/chem_data_en.asp

to any of the following 27 **European Union (EU)** Member States: *Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Malta, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden and United Kingdom*

OR *Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway*, which are part of the **European Economic Area (EEA)**

What has changed in the EU/EEA regarding chemicals management?

REACH introduced **an obligation to send a registration,**

to the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA) for chemical substances on their own or in mixtures, which are manufactured in or imported into the EU/EEA in quantities of ≥ 1 tonne per year by any company in the EU/EEA. The obligation applies in certain cases also to substances in articles. Failure to register will mean for a company that it is no longer allowed to manufacture the substance in or import it into the EU/EEA.

REACH also introduced some changes to **supply chain communication**. These include a new Safety Data Sheet format, communication of safe use information on chemicals which do not need a Safety Data Sheet, and new information obligations on articles which contain substances of very high concern.



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What are the timelines?

Between 1 June and 1 December 2008 EU/EEA-manufacturers and EU/EEA-importers had the possibility to provide some limited information on each existing (so-called phase-in) substance for **pre-registration** with the European Chemicals Agency. This allows companies to benefit from extended registration deadlines (2010, 2013 & 2018) depending on the substance and its volume band.

If an EU/EEA importer or your Only Representative has failed to meet the deadline for pre-registration, he does not benefit from the extended registration deadlines and will need to register the substance before importing it again into the EU/EEA market.

Phase-in substances which were not pre-registered but are **imported for the first time into the EU/EEA after 1 December 2008** (end of pre-registration deadline) may benefit from the staggered registration timelines if the information requested for pre-registration is provided within 6 months of first import into the EU/EEA and no later than 12 months before the relevant registration deadline.

Registration obligations and how to fulfill them are explained in detail in the REACH guidance documents on the website of the European Chemicals Agency.

