

## Get organised!

**Nominate** a REACH compliance manager in your company.

**Create and maintain an inventory** of all substances or substances in mixtures/articles that you import or distribute or handle.

**Check** if the **substances or uses** in your inventory are exempted from one or all aspects of REACH.

**Regularly review** for each substance what role you have under REACH:

- ▶ **Manufacturer/Importer:** you manufacture or import a substance on its own or in a mixture.
- ▶ **Producer/Importer or supplier of articles:** you manufacture/import articles or place them on the market.
- ▶ **Distributor** (including retailers): you store and place on the market a substance, on its own or in a mixture.
- ▶ **Downstream user:** you use a substance, either on its own or in a mixture, in the course of industrial or professional activities (for example: formulation, dilution, repackaging, spraying, painting).

**Be active: for example (according to your role) establish a dialogue through the supply chain**, compile information on uses and use conditions of your chemicals. Identify and plan your responsibilities, keeping in mind the different timelines linked to the three tonnage levels ( $\geq 1$  tonne,  $\geq 100$  tonnes,  $\geq 1000$  tonnes).

## Where can I find further information?

Consult the European Chemicals Agency website :

<http://echa.europa.eu>

This website contains:

- ▶ **A Navigator tool** to assist you to find out your REACH obligations and how to fulfil them
- ▶ **"About REACH"** with an overview of the legislation
- ▶ **Guidance** documents
- ▶ **IT tools** for REACH
- ▶ **FAQ** - Frequently Asked Questions in English
- ▶ Information on **public consultations**
- ▶ Information on **pre-registered** and **registered substances**
- ▶ Links to the **legislative text**

Your industry association is also a good source of information for sector specific issues and your supplier/s can answer chemical specific questions.

The REACH helpdesk in your country provides advice about your responsibilities and roles. Their contact details are on the ECHA website.



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# REACH

## The new EU chemicals legislation

## Does REACH affect me?

Do you know what REACH means for your products and your company? Find out your obligations under REACH if:

- ▶ You manufacture or import chemical substances or mixtures of chemical substances.
- ▶ You produce or import articles (for example construction materials, electronic components, toys or vehicles) which contain substances that are released during their use or that are included in a list of *substances of very high concern*.
- ▶ You process chemicals or you formulate mixtures for end use (for example cleaning products, paints or motor oils) or you use these formulated products professionally. In this case you are a *downstream user*.

# REACH ME?

**NAVIGATOR**  
What are my obligations under REACH?  
Obtain a list of your obligations by answering questions about the chemicals you handle!

Enter the Navigator

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## What is REACH?

REACH is the European law on chemicals and their safe use. It deals with the Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals.

REACH replaces previous European laws related to chemicals and is complementary to other environmental and safety legislation. It does not replace sector specific legislation (for example on cosmetics or detergents).

REACH is also implemented in Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway. These countries are part of the European Economic Area (EEA).

## Does this concern all chemicals and products?

Yes, but some chemicals are exempted, totally or partially, for example chemicals in food and medicine. Natural substances are also exempted from registration under REACH, if they are not dangerous and have not been chemically modified.



## What do I have to do?

If you manufactured or imported 1 tonne or more of any chemical substance per year before 1 December 2008 and you did not pre-register the substance with the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA), you cannot continue producing or importing the substance until you have submitted a registration dossier to the Agency.

If you have started manufacturing or importing substances after 1 December 2008 or only reached the 1 tonne threshold after that date, you can, under certain circumstances still pre-register the substance and benefit from staggered registration deadlines (2010, 2013 or 2018).

If you have pre-registered your substances and intend to register them you have to participate in the relevant Substance Information Exchange Forums (SIEF) to prepare a registration dossier.

If your company uses chemicals as a downstream user, you must apply the safety measures communicated to you by your supplier via a Safety Data Sheet or carry out a Chemical Safety Assessment (CSA) yourself. Make sure your suppliers know about your uses so they can include them in their CSA!

If you import any formulated products or articles be aware of your potential registration obligations!

## Will REACH ban chemicals?

REACH introduced an authorisation system which aims to ensure that the risks from substances of very high concern are properly controlled, and to progressively replace these substances. In cases where there are no suitable alternatives the use of the substance may be authorised if it is shown that socio-economic benefits outweigh the risk to human health or the environment.

If your products are articles, which contain substances on the candidate list of substances of very high concern (see ECHA website) in concentrations of more than 0.1% per article, you must inform your customers about the presence of these substances.

Restrictions on the marketing and use of chemicals established during the previous legislation remain in place and are now included in annex XVII of REACH. ECHA coordinates the European-wide work on new restrictions of substances.

## What are the timelines?

