

News Alert:

ECHA/PR/08/27

Helsinki, 19 September 2008

ECHA REQUESTS COMPANIES TO PRE-REGISTER ONLY THE SUBSTANCES THEY INTEND TO REGISTER

ECHA advises companies to reflect on their pre-registration strategy before pre-registering their substance(s). Companies wishing to have some of their pre-registrations deleted should send such a request by registered mail to ECHA.

By 15 September 352,641 pre-registrations had been received by ECHA. The breakdown by country is given in Attachment I. A number of these pre-registrations may not be valid.

ECHA would like to remind companies that before they submit a pre-registration REACH-IT requires them to declare that the substances they pre-register are phase-in substances within the meaning of Article 3 (20) of the REACH Regulation (REACH).

Only Representatives are also reminded that, according to Article 8 of REACH, they can only be appointed by a person outside the Community who manufactures a substance, formulates a preparation or produces an article that is imported into the Community, and that the documents showing this must be available.

Certain pre-registrations ECHA has received are in breach of Article 3 (20) or Article 8 of REACH. Companies who have submitted such pre-registrations may therefore be subject to enforcement actions by the authorities of the relevant Member States.

Furthermore, ECHA has received pre-registrations made by two companies, covering the entire EC inventory. This practice should not be followed as it is not in accordance with the aim of pre-registration which is designed for data sharing in advance of the registration. Pre-registration of the entire inventory impacts heavily on the usefulness of the list of pre-registered substances. On the one hand, for a company pre-registering the whole inventory participation in the Substance Information Exchange Fora (SIEFs) will become unmanageable. On the other hand, this is in particular disadvantageous for downstream users, who should be able to notify ECHA of their interest in a substance not appearing on

the list of pre-registered substances, according to Article 28(5) of REACH. Consequently, ECHA requests companies to pre-register only the substances they intend to register.

It also appears from some pre-registrations that the name of the substance does not refer to any chemical name that could be used for the purposes of a SIEF. In those cases where ECHA has doubts on the validity of a submitted pre-registration, the companies concerned are being contacted to clarify their pre-registrations. Companies wishing to have a pre-registration deleted can send their request by registered mail to:

ECHA, Directorate C / Pre-registration Team
Annankatu 18, 00121 Helsinki, Finland

The request must clearly specify the substance(s) and include a print-out of the submission report(s).

Deleted pre-registrations and the pre-registrations made by the two companies, covering the entire EC inventory shall not be included in the intermediate list of pre-registered substances ECHA intends to publish in October.

In addition, companies should note that ECHA will restrict the number of substances that can be submitted via bulk pre-registration files at 10,000. If a company would like to pre-register more than 10,000 substances they need to contact the ECHA Helpdesk for prior approval. The request should be made using the Contact ECHA web form (http://echa.europa.eu/about/contact-form_en.asp) and REACH-IT should be selected as the topic.

Links:

Data submission web section and **REACH-IT Portal** can be accessed by clicking REACH-IT in the main menu of the ECHA website or by typing following address to Internet address line:

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

The **web form** to contact the ECHA Helpdesk can be found in the About ECHA section of the Agency website at:

http://echa.europa.eu/about/contact-form_en.asp

ECHA Press contact: press@echa.europa.eu

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European Chemicals Agency Annankatu 18, P.O. Box 400, FI-00121 Helsinki, Finland
Tel.: +358 9 6861 80 | Fax +358 9 6861 8210 | <http://echa.europa.eu> | press@echa.europa.eu

Attachment I – Number of company sign-ups and pre-registrations by country.

	Company sign-ups in REACH-IT	Pre-registrations
AUSTRIA	172	1,449
BELGIUM	457	5,577
BULGARIA	91	397
CYPRUS	37	76
CZECH R.	173	1,974
DENMARK	72	759
ESTONIA	28	166
FINLAND	346	1,397
FRANCE	830	9,945
GERMANY	1,886	141,185
GREECE	58	404
HUNGARY	76	1,885
ICELAND	5	13
IRELAND	615	3,141
ITALY	606	13,989
LATVIA	24	221
LIECHTENSTEIN	8	66
LITHUANIA	37	75
LUXEMBOURG	32	270
MALTA	8	10
NETHERLANDS	928	17,356
NORWAY	62	262
POLAND	223	1,859
PORTUGAL	76	555
ROMANIA	72	401
SLOVAKIA	39	355
SLOVENIA	34	97
SPAIN	526	8,865
SWEDEN	200	1,458
UK	1,341	138,434
TOTAL	9,062	352,641

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