

ECHA-16-A-11-EN

The REACH regulation (EC) 1907/2006 includes the registration, evaluation, authorisation and restriction of chemicals. The aim is to protect human health and the environment from risks from chemicals. REACH supports and complements other EU legislation that also applies to users of chemicals, including environmental, health and safety legislations. This page explains how it affects users of chemicals in the workplace.

WHAT DOES THAT MEAN FOR A COMPANY THAT USES CHEMICALS?

The main elements of REACH are outlined below, together with what they mean for a company that uses chemicals.

Registration	Companies that manufacture or import more than 1 tonne per year of a substance into the EEA must register with ECHA.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You may need to register if you manufacture or import directly. For substances you purchase, check with your supplier if a registration is required. Substances must be registered by 31 May 2018.
Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction	There are a number of mechanisms within REACH to identify chemicals of concern and to manage the risks posed by these chemicals.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Be aware if any chemicals you use are restricted, require authorisation, or have harmonised classification. Aim to substitute chemicals of concern whenever possible
Information in the supply chain	When a substance is hazardous, registrants prepare a chemical safety assessment for all the uses of that substance. Relevant information to protect human health and the environment is provided in the safety data sheet and exposure scenarios.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> When you receive safety data sheets and exposure scenarios, check that you implement the recommended measures. If you supply hazardous substances or mixtures, provide information to users so they can use them safely. If you have new information on the hazards or risk management measures for a substance, communicate that to your supplier.

WHERE CAN I GET MORE INFORMATION ...about the REACH Regulation?



The technical, scientific and administrative aspects of REACH and CLP are managed by ECHA, the European Chemicals Agency. See <http://www.echa.europa.eu/regulations/reach> for an overview of the REACH regulation and useful links.

An interactive map on <http://www.echa.europa.eu/downstream-users> provides links to the support available to downstream users on the ECHA website.