

## What can my company do?

**Create an inventory** of all substances or substances in preparations or articles fulfilling REACH criteria you export to the EU. Check the website of the European Chemicals Agency to find out if the substances or uses in your inventory are exempted from the registration under REACH.

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

If a chemical substance in these inventories is imported into the EU  $\geq 1$  tonne/year it needs to be pre-registered and registered by the EU importer or your Only Representative to ensure uninterrupted exports.

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

**Prepare data and information** for your EU importers or Only Representative.

## What information is required for a registration?

The Regulation 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 Forum).

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

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

## Where can my company turn for further information?

The "About 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 can not find sufficient advice by consulting the Navigator, guidance documents or Frequently Asked Questions on the website you should consider consulting:

- ▶ Your EU importers: they are good sources for information on sector specific issues
- ▶ The National helpdesk in the country of your EU importer or your Only Representative (contact details are available on the website)

The REACH helpdesk of the European Chemicals Agency will assist with:

- ▶ Questions regarding the registration of substances,
- ▶ The IUCLID5 tool and gives
- ▶ Advice to companies in Third Countries

The ECHA website can be accessed at:

<http://ec.europa.eu/echa/>

# REACH

## THE NEW EUROPEAN CHEMICALS LEGISLATION

## Information for exporters to the European Union

## What should your company know?

### What is REACH?

REACH is a new European Community Regulation on chemicals and their safe use. It deals with the Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemical substances. The new Regulation entered into force on 1 June 2007.

## Does REACH affect companies outside the European Community?

No – but your exports may be concerned if you or your customers export

- ▶ *chemical substances* (e.g. base chemicals, speciality 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 preparations in containers* (e.g. printer cartridges).
- ▶ *or articles* which contain *substances which are intentionally released* during their use (e.g. fragrance in a scented candle)
- ▶ or contain substances which are on a candidate list of "*substances of very high concern*". This list may become available at the website of the European Chemicals Agency from autumn 2008.

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, Netherlands, Malta, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden and United Kingdom*

*Iceland, Lichtenstein and Norway*, which are part of the **European Economic Area** are planning to transpose REACH to their national legislation. When this has taken place the same requirements apply to exports to these countries.

## What has changed in the EU regarding