

Würth Industrie Service GmbH & Co. KG · Postfach 1873 · 97980 Bad Mergentheim

For the attention of the customers of
Würth Industrie Service GmbH & Co. KG

Bad Mergentheim, 23/04/2024

European Chemicals Regulation EG 1907/2006 REACH
(SVHC latest)

Dear Sir or Madam,

Thank you for your enquiry regarding the EU Chemicals Regulation (REACH).

As trader and/or importer of products (screws, bolts, nuts, accessories etc.), we take seriously our obligation resulting from the REACH Regulation. Basing on the REACH regulation there is no obligation for Würth Industrie Service GmbH & Co. KG for the registration and notification according to Article 7 II of the REACH Regulation.

In accordance with Article 33 of the REACH Regulation, there is the obligation to communicate information in the supply chain for products containing substances of very high concern in a concentration above 0.1 percent (w/w). We therefore request all our suppliers affected to inform us about substances of very high concern according to the current Candidate list.

Yours sincerely,

Stefan Schmitt
Product management

**EU regulation on chemical substances EC 1907/2006 REACH:
Obligations for Mechanical Construction Elements (*)**

The REACH regulation concerning chemicals has come into effect since June 01, 2007. REACH distinguishes between substances, preparations and articles, with several obligations.

According to Art. 3 of REACH regulation, mechanical construction elements are defined as “articles”. Articles are objects which function is determined to a greater degree by their shape and design than does their chemical composition (e.g. the metallic compounds of an alloy).

Obligation for registration and reporting at ECHA (European Chemicals Agency)

Article 7(1) of REACH regulation, determines there is an obligation for registration of articles only if they contain substances that are intended to be released under normal or reasonably foreseeable conditions of use and if they contain these substances in excess of 1 ton per year and per producer resp. importer.

Mechanical construction elements with a coating system that protects against corrosion through self-sacrificing, have no obligation for registration. Reason is that not the coating itself would be set free, but its reaction products. This exemption is documented in Art. 2, par. 7(b) and Annex V Nr. 3 of the REACH regulation. Substances which result from a chemical reaction occurring upon end use and which are not themselves manufactured, imported or placed on the market, are exempted.

Apart from the above, Art. 7 (2) of REACH imposes rules for notification if articles contain a substance of very high concern (SVHC) (Art.57) according to the Candidate List (Art. 59 of REACH regulation) if the concentration is over 0,1 % (w/w) and if the total weight of this substance (not of the articles) is more than one ton per importer/producer and per year.

For mechanical construction elements, the above mentioned obligation for notification may be applicable for Lead. This must be checked accordingly in each individual case.

Chemo-technical products (e.g. aerosols, seals, micro capsulated glues) are not articles, but preparations. For “preparations” its chemical components are obliged to be registered. For preparations imported into the EU it is the importer that has the obligation for registration, according to Art. 6 of REACH regulation, if more than one ton is imported per year.

If preparations are produced in the EU, the producer has the obligation for registration.

Obligations in the supply chain

Traded articles can be subject to reporting or information duties, independent if they are procured within or outside the EU.

For all articles that contain substances of very high concern according to the Candidate List with a threshold of more than 0,1% (weight), Art. 33 of REACH regulation imposes the obligation to inform the supply chain automatically about the substances of very high concern according to the latest edition of the Candidate List.

Accordingly, the supplier has the obligation to provide the recipient of the articles with the available information on the safe use of the article, at least with the name of the substance concerned.

The Candidate List contains a.o. the following substances:

- **Chrome trioxide** (Chrome(VI)oxide). This substance is contained in yellow, black and olive colored chromatation layers and also in the Zinc flake coating Dacromet, however in a concentration $\leq 0,1$ % of the product weight. Therefore, no obligation for information to downstream users is imposed.
- **Lead** (CAS-Nr. 7439-92-1, EG-Nr. 231-100-4). Lead can be contained as an alloying element in a concentration $>0,1$ % of the article weight of mechanical construction elements with the following property classes/materials:
 - o Property classes: 4.6, 4.8, 5.8, 6.8, 04, 4, 5, 6, 14H, 17H, 22H, 33H
 - o Free cutting steel
 - o Cupper alloys (e.g. Brass, Bronze)
 - o Aluminum alloys

The hazard classification of Lead as Toxic to Reproduction does not mean that an immediate danger is caused by Lead containing materials. The potential toxically properties of Lead are known for years and are taken into account, e.g. in occupational safety legislation.

Products subject to REACH are not subject to classification and labeling requirements. This is also applicable to mechanical construction elements for which consequently also no safety data sheets are required.

(*) Mechanical Construction Elements: Fasteners, standardized and drawing parts