



REACH Testing and Support



With product safety a priority, it is important that brands, manufacturers and retailers ensure their products do not contain hazardous substances.

The aim of REACH is to improve the protection of human health and the environment from the risk of chemical substances, at the same time, enhancing the competitiveness of the EU chemicals industry.

REACH testing is a critical part of European legislation to ensure that products entering the marketplace are safe for consumer use.

BLC is one of the fastest testing laboratories in Europe and provides results within 3-5 working days. With over 90 year's experience, BLC has a vast knowledge and understanding of chemical testing, product legislation and supply chain support and can help with all REACH testing and REACH support including technical advice and risk assessments at our UKAS accredited laboratory. We can also conduct REACH screening to ensure that companies can meet the immediate requirements of REACH regulations and deliver results of a full REACH screen within 5 working days.

What is REACH?

REACH is the European Community Regulation on chemicals and their safe use (EC 1907/2006). It deals with the **R**egistration, **E**valuation, **A**uthorisation and **R**estriction of **C**hemical substances. The law entered into force on 1 June 2007. REACH is managed by the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA).

REACH has a very wide scope and covers all substances whether manufactured, imported, used as intermediates or placed on the market either on their own, in preparations or in articles.

Manufacturers and importers of substances must submit a registration to the Agency for each substance manufactured or imported in quantities of 1 tonne or above per year. Failure to register a substance means that the company concerned is no longer allowed to manufacture or import this substance within Europe.

The REACH Regulation places greater responsibility on industry to manage the risks from chemicals and to provide safety information on the substances. Companies importing articles into Europe need to understand what is in them and to establish whether they need to notify any of the substances to ECHA.

One of the main reasons for developing and adopting the REACH Regulation was that a large number of substances have been manufactured and placed on the market in Europe for many years, sometimes in very high amounts, and yet there is insufficient information on the hazards that they pose to human health and the environment.

The REACH Regulation places greater responsibility on industry to manage the risks from chemicals and to provide safety information on the substances and replace very hazardous chemicals with safer alternatives.

Companies importing articles into Europe need to understand what is in them and to establish whether they need to notify any of the substances to ECHA.

Substances of Very High Concern

There are certain substances of particular concern and the Regulation calls for the progressive substitution of the most dangerous chemicals when suitable alternatives have been identified. These substances are referred to as Substances of Very High Concern (SVHCs) and the candidate list of SVHCs currently contains 73 chemical substances.

Any supplier of articles containing a SVHC at a concentration above 0.1% (w/w) has to provide available, relevant safety information about the substance to the recipients of these articles. The information is to be provided to the recipients automatically, ie as soon as the substance has been included on the Candidate List. This is a legal obligation within the regulation.

On request from a consumer the same information has to be provided free of charge and within 45 calendar days of the request.

REACH is a complex issue and subject to continual change. BLC can support and advise on the REACH regulation and supply chemical management services.

BLC members receive 30% discount on all testing, training and problem solving support.

Contact us

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Membership

Training

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