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ECHA Proposed Two Substances for Restrictions under REACH Annex XVII



Following the proposal from France to restrict the use of lead and its compounds in jewellery and the use of dimethylfumarate (DMF/DMFu), the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA) has announced on 21 June 2010 that the two substances be considered for restrictions under REACH Annex XVII. Interested parties are invited to comment on the restriction reports prepared by France.

The ECHA has requested for comments to be submitted preferably by 21 September 2010 but all comments will be accepted until 21 December 2010. After the consultation period, the European Commission will decide whether to officially implement the bans and the decision can be expected around October 2011. It is important to note that while the restriction for lead in jewellery will apply 6 months after the entry into force of the amendment to Annex XVII, the restriction for DMF will apply as soon as the amendment to Annex XVII enters into force.

The 2 proposed substances and their scope & limits are:

Lead¹

- All jewellery, both precious and fashion jewellery, and jewellery intended for adults as well as for children;

- Lead migration rate > 0.09 micrograms per square centimetre per hour ($\mu\text{g}/\text{cm}^2/\text{hr}$);
- The lead migration limit should be considered for each individual part of the jewellery. It is proposed to use the available standard EN 71-3 for testing the migration rate.

Dimethylfumarate² (DMF/DMFu)

- All types of articles;
- Articles containing DMF in concentrations > 0.1 mg/kg are prohibited from being produced and placed on the EU market;
- The concentration of 0.1 mg/kg should be considered for each individual part of the article. If a part has a DMF concentration which exceeds this limit, it should be considered that the article is not allowed to be produced or placed on the EU market.

HOW CAN TÜV SÜD SUPPORT YOU?

Staying at the forefront of regulatory and directive changes can help you safeguard your business against any potential liabilities. You can rely on TÜV SÜD to provide notifications on any regulatory or directive developments; our client support and technical expert team can advise and provide a comprehensive assessment as to how your operations may be affected by the changes. ■

¹ Information on the proposal for lead in jewellery is available at: http://echa.europa.eu/consultations/restrictions/information_note_lead_in_jewellery_en.asp
² Information on the proposal for dimethylfumarate is available at: http://echa.europa.eu/consultations/restrictions/information_note_DMFu_en.asp

ECHA Adds Eight SVHCs to the Candidate List



The eight SVHCs (Substances of Very High Concern) proposed by the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA) on 8 March 2010³ have been officially added to the Candidate List on 18 June 2010⁴. The Candidate List, therefore, currently contains 38 SVHCs.

Articles containing substances in the Candidate List may trigger immediate communication obligations for suppliers of these products. The 8 substances, which are considered to be either carcinogenic, mutagenic and/or reprotoxic, are listed in the table below.

HOW CAN TÜV SÜD SUPPORT AFFECTED CUSTOMERS

If your business operations involve dealing with any of the eight substances, you could be affected by the latest rule published by the ECHA. Consult a TÜV SÜD expert to find out about the methods we have developed to scan articles and detect the presence of these chemicals. Our state-of-the-art equipment can provide an accurate assessment and thereby ascertain whether your products contain these chemicals and their applicable levels. ■

TABLE A: THE 8 NEW SVHCs ON THE CANDIDATE LIST – PUBLISHED BY ECHA ON 18 JANUARY 2010

Substance Name	EC Number	CAS Number	Proposed SVHC Property	Potential Uses
Trichloroethylene	201-167-4	79-01-6	Carcinogenic category 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cleaning and degreasing of metal parts • Solvent in adhesives • As an intermediate in the manufacture of chlorinated and fluorinated organic compounds
Boric acid	233-139-2 234-343-4	10043-35-3 11113-50-1	Toxic for reproduction category 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Uses include a multitude of applications, e.g. in biocides and preservatives, personal care products, food additives, glass, ceramics, rubber, fertilisers, flame retardants, paints, industrial fluids, brake fluids, soldering products, film developers.
Disodium tetraborate, anhydrous (also include the pentahydrate and decahydrate salts)	215-540-4	1330-43-4 12179-04-3 1303-96-4	Toxic for reproduction category 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Uses include a multitude of applications, e.g. in glass and glass fibres, ceramics, detergents and cleaners, personal care products, industrial fluids, metallurgy, adhesives, flame retardants, biocides, fertilizers.
Tetraboron disodium heptaoxide, hydrate	235-541-3	12267-73-1	Toxic for reproduction category 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Uses include a multitude of applications, e.g. in glass and glass fibres, ceramics, detergents and cleaners, personal care products, industrial fluids, metallurgy, adhesives, flame retardants, biocides, fertilizers.

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³ The proposal of the eight SVHCs was featured in the March 2010 issue of Softlines E-ssentials: https://www.tuv-sud.in/APMKT/pdf/Softlines_E-ssentials_Mar_2010.pdf

⁴ The updated Candidate List can be found at the ECHA website: http://echa.europa.eu/chem_data/authorisation_process/candidate_list_table_en.asp

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Substance Name	EC Number	CAS Number	Proposed SVHC Property	Potential Uses
Sodium chromate	231-889-5	7775-11-3	Carcinogenic category 2; mutagenic category 2; toxic for reproduction category 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Laboratory (analytical agent) • Manufacture of other chromium compounds
Potassium chromate	232-140-5	7789-00-6	Carcinogenic category 2; mutagenic category 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Treatment and coating of metals • Manufacture of reagents and chemicals • Manufacture of textiles • Colouring agent in ceramics • Tanning and dressing of leather • Manufacture of pigments/inks • Laboratory (analytical reagent) • Pyrotechnics
Ammonium dichromate	232-143-1	7789-09-5	Carcinogenic category 2; mutagenic category 2; toxic for reproduction category 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oxidising agent • Laboratory (analytical agent) • Tanning of leather • Manufacture of textiles • Manufacture of photosensitive screens (cathode ray tubes) • Metal treatment
Potassium dichromate	231-906-6	7778-50-9	Carcinogenic category 2; mutagenic category 2; toxic for reproduction category 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chrome metal manufacturing • Treatment and coating of metals • Manufacture of reagents and chemicals • Laboratory (analytical agent) • Cleaning of laboratory glassware • Tanning of leather • Manufacture of textiles • Photolithography • Wood treatment • Corrosion inhibitor in cooling systems

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