

REACHING A SAFER FUTURE



MANAGEMENT OF SUBSTANCES OF VERY HIGH CONCERN

Are you prepared to manage Substances of Very High Concern? Understand your obligations and find simple and effective solutions. Building a successful and cost-effective strategy to eliminate and control unwanted SVHC is critical. Armed with strong expertise and remarkable technical support, SGS is able to offer a range of cost-effective solutions for supply chain management and SVHC screening solutions for consumer products through our global network of laboratories.

SGS

BRINGING COMPLIANCE WITHIN REACH

SUBSTANCES OF VERY HIGH CONCERN

Under REACH (the Regulation for Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals), all members of the supply chain have a variety of obligations related to Substances of Very High Concern (SVHC) in preparations such as paints, inks and glues and/or articles, such as toys, furniture, textiles and electrical products.

Substances of Very High Concern have hazards that have serious consequences. For example they may cause cancer (carcinogenic substances), or they may have other harmful properties and remain in the environment for a long time (persistent) and gradually build up in animals (bioaccumulative). One of the aims of REACH is to control the use of such substances via authorisation and restriction and encourage industry to substitute these substances with safer ones.

INFORMATION IN THE SUPPLY CHAIN

The communication of information up and down the supply chain is a key feature of REACH. Users should be able to understand what manufacturers and importers know about the dangers involved in using chemicals and how to control risks. This includes articles and preparations, such as finished consumer products, components and packaging, containing SVHC from the candidate list.

NOTIFICATION, AUTHORISATION & RESTRICTION

EU importers will be required to notify the European Chemicals Agency if SVHC from candidate list are present in articles in certain concentrations at or above 1 ton per year. EU importers or manufacturers may also require authorisation to have SVHC present in preparations. REACH will also regulate certain substances by setting conditions such as limit requirements.

DESIGN YOUR STRATEGY

After a diagnosis of your existing inventory and a training of your obligations in practical terms, SGS consultancy services can assist you to assess the risks and develop your strategy of risk control, based on SVHC testing, audit, data collection or documentation review. This strategy will allow you to feel confident in achieving REACH compliance whether you are a manufacturer, importer or retailer, in an efficient and cost optimised manner.

SGS can also provide innovative strategies and critical technical support to set up new systems or modify and enhance internal business processes that will reduce costs and enhance your risk management. SGS can then provide full support for the implementation of your strategy, from supplier training and deployment of procedures to testing and audits.

SVHC ANALYSIS AND SCREENING

SVHC may be intentionally or inadvertently introduced into various consumer products due to the complexities of both supply chain and manufacturing process. Laboratory testing provides reliable and concrete evidence to determine chemical substance information that exists in products. Testing results also provide information on SVHC substance identification, substance volume and substance concentration, which is significant and necessary for companies to meet REACH obligations. We provide:

- Individual SVHC Testing;
- Candidate List Testing; and
- SVHC Screening.

MONITORING AND VERIFICATION

In order to meet the upcoming challenges raised by REACH, companies need to establish, implement and maintain a documented system to control, manage and maintain all

chemical information of REACH compliant products in all associated processes and activities. On-site compliance audits can enhance the confidence of REACH compliance and implementation of upstream EU and non-EU suppliers.

Typically, the supplier should demonstrate control and compliance in the following areas:

- Knowledge of REACH requirements and compliance approaches;
- Chemical information of substances and materials are well maintained and up-to-date;
- Basic knowledge of the application of the substances and materials used;
- Basic control of suppliers and sub-contractors' raw materials and substances to ensure they comply with REACH regulation; and
- Basic control to identify and manage materials and substances containing SVHC.

WHY SGS?

Our REACH Global Competence Centre consists of a dedicated team of technical REACH experts from the consumer products industry in the fields of substance identification, restricted substance analysis and supply chain management, as well as toxicological and eco-toxicological specialists. Our REACH expertise combined with consultancy services and experience in consumer products supply chains provides a central point of contact for global solutions.

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT REACH SERVICES, VISIT WWW.SGS.COM/REACH OR CONTACT US AT REACH@SGS.COM