## STATEMENT FOR COBALT COMPOUNDS

Regulation (EC) No. 1907/2006 concerning the Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of the Chemicals (REACH) requires for example that information of certain Substances of Very High Concern (SVHC) is communicated in the supply chain when it is over 0.1% in the article, preparation or substance. For further information please visit SVHC candidate obligations and SVHC candidate list.

Cobalt dichloride as well as cobalt(II) carbonate, cobalt(II) diacetate, cobalt(II) dinitrate and cobalt(II) sulphate have been placed on the candidate list of SVHC on 28th October, 2008 and 15th December, 2010, respectively, due to the identification as carcinogenic and toxic for reproduction substances.

There are currently no international test standards available to identify and determine quantitatively the amounts of the SVHC present in consumer

products finished articles. After careful consideration of ECHA requirements and thorough research, a SGS in-house screening method has been developed by checking the presence of cobalt and other appropriate tracers in the sample. This approach is confirmed as valid according to the recommendation from the ECHA helpdesk.

To even enhance the analytical evidence an extractive confirmation test was developed by SGS in order to distinguish SVHC cobalt compounds from other widely used cobalt containing substances in various applications. This approach makes use of substance specific solubility under certain extraction conditions. However, due to the fact that the source of cobalt and/or respective SVHC anions cannot be categorically identified, the amounts of cobalt dichloride, cobalt(II) carbonate, cobalt(II) diacetate, cobalt(II) dinitrate

and cobalt(II) sulphate present are therefore based on calculation. For the sake of maximum security the calculation is based on the worst-case scenario and the reported values should be regarded as for reference only.

Whenever there is a positive finding, clients are advised to review the chemical formulation as well as the related production process in order to ascertain the material of concern which is present in the article. We would like to inform you that there may be further obligations in connection with REACH for placing articles containing >0.1% SVHC on the markets of EU member states. Please contact reach@sgs.com for further information.

## SGS GLOBAL REACH AND RSTS TEAM

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SUBSTANCE NAME	EC NUMBER	CAS NUMBER
Cobalt dichloride	231-589-4	7646-79-9
Cobalt(II) carbonate	208-169-4	513-79-1
Cobalt(II) diacetate	200-755-8	71-48-7
Cobalt(II) dinitrate	233-402-1	10141-05-6
Cobalt(II) sulphate	233-334-2	10124-43-3

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