

Declaration, January 2024

Axpet®, Vivak®

REACH

The REACH Regulation came into force on 1st June 2007 and is applicable in all EU member states. REACH stands for Registration, Evaluation, Authorization and Restriction of Chemicals.

REACH stipulates that all substances and preparations (>1t/a) produced in the EU or imported into the EU must be registered. Registration must cover the complete life cycle of these substances for all identified applications. Time scale and scope of registration depends on the amounts produced in or imported into the EU.

REACH and sheet articles

REACH applies to substances and preparations. Articles are dealt with separately by REACH. An article is by definition an object which is given a specific form, surface or shape during manufacture which determines its function to a greater extent than its chemical composition.

Therefore our sheet articles are not directly affected by REACH and do not have to be registered.

However, we are dependent on the availability of certain raw materials. These raw materials may fall within the scope of application of REACH. Therefore we must ensure that our suppliers adhere to the REACH regulation during their work processes, if required, so they can continue to supply us with the necessary raw materials.

We are happy to comply with the obligation to communicate with suppliers and customers as stipulated in the REACH regulation.

REACH and "alarming ingredients"

The European Chemicals Agency (ECHA) is located in Helsinki. It is responsible for registration, evaluation, approval and restriction of chemical substances (REACH) in order to ensure a standard procedure within the European Union.

Appendix XIII of the REACH Regulation names criteria for identification of persistent, bioaccumulable and toxic as well as very persistent and very bioaccumulable substances. However, the corresponding Appendix XIV - List of substances subject to authorisation - has not been circulated yet.

ECHA has published a so-called candidate list with particularly alarming substances (SVHC = **S**ubstances of **V**ery **H**igh **C**oncern) on the internet.

The substances listed in this candidate list (status 23.01.2024) are not used by us to manufacture our products. We cannot rule out completely that - contrary to our expectations - raw materials, additives and agents may contain extremely small traces of these substances when analysed. However, the percentage of such a substance in our articles is below the boundary value of 0.1 % mass percentage as set by REACH.

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