

About Reach

REACH (**R**egistration, **E**valuation, **A**uthorisation and **R**estriction of **C**hemicals) is the EU Regulation ((**EC**) **N° 1907/2006**) that entered into force on 1st June 2007. It replaced the existing European risk assessment system, amongst others. The REACH regulation is subject to revisions and can be found on the European Chemicals Agency ([ECHA](http://echa.europa.eu)) website.

The REACH regulation applies to all companies manufacturing or importing substances in the EU at ≥ 1 tonne/year. This regulation places greater responsibility on companies – they are obliged to identify and manage risks from all REACH compliant substances to ensure safe handling and use of the substances by humans and for the environment. Companies are required to gather data on the properties of their chemical substances, and to register this information on a central database run by the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA). ECHA acts as the central point in the REACH system: it manages the databases necessary to operate the system, co-ordinates the in-depth evaluation of suspicious chemicals and is building up a public database in which consumers and professionals can consult on hazard information. The relevant information on the safe handling and use of substances has to be provided to downstream users in so-called Safety Data Sheets (SDS).



Of the main reasons to introduce REACH one was the large number of substances manufactured and placed on the market in Europe for many years, sometimes in very high amounts, without having sufficient information on the hazards they posed to human health and the environment. The REACH regulation ensures these information gaps are filled and that industry is able to assess hazards and risks related to the handling and use of substances, and to identify and implement risk management measures to protect humans and the environment.



Companies are required to submit their dossier as a joint submission if the substance is produced or imported by multiple companies. The dossier of the lead registrant of the joint submission must include the complete Chemical Safety Report, the classification and labeling of all compositions of the substance of the joint submission (depending on physical state and impurity level) and (robust) study summaries. The member dossiers should contain company-specific information (such as the uses and the tonnage band), the Chemical Safety Report (only company declarations of compliance) and the Guidance on Safe Use.

***i2a* and REACH**

i2a represents producers, importers and distributors of **8 antimony compounds**:

Substance	EC number	CAS number	Registration deadline for <i>i2a</i> members	Lead registrant
Antimony metal	231-146-5	7440-36-0	30 Nov 2010	CAMPINE
Diantimony trioxide	215-175-0	1309-64-4	30 Nov 2010	CAMPINE
Sodium hexahydroxoantimonate	251-735-0	33908-66-6	30 Nov 2010	UMICORE
Sodium antimonate (A)	239-444-7	15432-85-6	31 May 2013	GMS CHEMIE
Diantimonytris(ethylene glycolate)	249-820-2	29736-75-2	31 May 2013	GOLDMANN
Diantimony pentoxide	215-237-7	1314-60-9	31 May 2013	CAMPINE
Antimony trisulfide	215-713-4	1345-04-6	31 May 2013	CHEMETALL
Antimony trichloride	233-47-2	10025-91-9	31 May 2018	RECYLEX

Antimony metal, antimony trioxide and sodium hexahydroxoantimonate were duly registered in September 2010 and are REACH compliant. In the three dossiers all identified uses were analysed as SAFE for workers, consumers, general public and for the environment under the conditions described in the respective exposure scenarios (ES).

Exposure scenarios to describe how workers and customers are exposed to your substance or articles/mixtures containing your substance, and how they can be handled in a safe way under the specified conditions (the tonnage used per site, the duration of exposure, personal protection measures...). Full exposure scenarios will be made freely available via the extended safety data sheet.

According to the REACH regulation, each downstream user has to check whether the ES fit his use(s) and the use(s) of his customer(s) as described in the SDS supplied to him or carry out their own chemical safety assessment if the above proves not to be the case.

i2a is currently preparing REACH dossiers for the 5 other substances (diantimony tris(ethyleneglycolate), sodium antimonate, antimony trisulfide, antimony trichloride and antimony pentoxide) and expects to finalize them by the end of 2011.

i2a has made available two guides on the REACH page of its website (www.antimony.be) to help downstream users check the 'safe use' of a substance: "[ES: Eurometaux guidance for DU-mmies](#)" and "[guidance on how to check environmental compliance with the ES](#)". *i2a* realises that the eSDS is a living document that will need to be continuously updated/refined once more detailed information down the supply chain becomes available to the suppliers. As a member of *i2a*, you can contact us for assistance during this process.