

Draft wording of accompanying letter to supplier

Dear supplier,

According to article 33 of the EU REACH Regulation customers have the right to know whether the articles they purchase contain any chemicals from the REACH candidate list. These chemicals are also known as SVHC (Substances of very high concern) as they may have serious and irreversible effects on health or the environment. The candidate list contains at present (January 2017) 174 substances, which are subject to the information obligation. Without this information, the articles cannot be placed on the market within the EU.

The REACH Regulation defines an article as an object, which during production is given a special shape, surface or design, which determines its function to a greater degree than its chemical composition. Articles that are assembled or joined together in a new article (complex article) remain articles for REACH purposes.

Our suppliers must submit a Supplier's Declaration for each article or article part in a complex article using the enclosed template. If no SVHC are present in the article or any of the article parts in a concentration of more than or equal to 0.1%, one declaration is sufficient.

You are invited to enclose any documents (e.g. laboratory tests and reports) that can document the presence/absence of SVHC. However, such documents do not replace the declaration, which must always be completed.

Note, that packaging is considered as a separate article and is under the same obligations.

It is of utmost importance that data are up to date and verifiable and we expect our suppliers to continuously monitor the REACH candidate list and react when the list is amended. This happens two times a year. The latest candidate list can be found here: <https://echa.europa.eu/candidate-list-table>

Add if in line with company policy:

We are aware that several of the substances on the candidate list are widely used in the production of articles, e.g. a range of phthalates are used in plastic components. We are also aware that if articles are used in accordance with the designated use, they do often not, to the best of present knowledge, pose a danger to health or to the environment and that the use of these substances is often in accordance with applicable law. However, in order to be proactive, we encourage our suppliers to phase out the use of SVHC in articles, as we prefer to source and distribute products not containing SVHC, wherever technically and economically viable.

Read more about the obligations to inform consumers of SVHC here:

<https://echa.europa.eu/information-on-chemicals/candidate-list-substances-in-articles>

https://echa.europa.eu/documents/10162/13563/leaflet_reach_2018_non_eu_en.pdf

Should you have any queries about the declaration, please, do not hesitate to contact us.

Kind regards,