

**AkzoNobel**

Tomorrow's Answers Today

October, 2008

Dear Customer,

REACH stands for **Registration, Evaluation and Authorisation of Chemicals** and was put in act by the EU in 2007. The aim of REACH is to improve the protection of human health and the environment.

REACH requires registration of all substances, manufactured or imported as substances or in preparations in volumes over one ton per year. The registration includes submitting a dossier regarding the hazards of the chemical, including toxicological and eco-toxicological data triggered by volumes. For substance produced above 10 MT per years, the dossier must also contain a safety assessment. Under certain conditions, there are also requirements applicable to articles.

The fact that REACH regulates each chemical substance and not products results in that manufacturers and importers must review for REACH compliance for all constituents contained in their products.

REACH builds on the key concept: **No data – No market.**

Each legal entity needs to file a registration, failing to do so or fulfil the requirements of REACH will by law prohibit manufacturing or import to EU, even if another company already has registered that substance.

REACH provides phase-in periods for chemicals already in the existing chemical registry ("EINECS") to allow continued manufacturing or importing, if the manufacturer or importer has pre-registered the substance. The phase-in periods end 2010, 2013 and 2018 depending on substance volumes and certain health and environmental classifications.

Pre-registration oblige certain basic information on the chemical and must be submitted by **December 1, 2008.**

Failure to pre-register substances subject to the REACH registration results in prohibition to manufacture or import of the substance to EU until the full registration process is completed.



REACH information about Eka Chemicals, Industrial Specialities products under the following trade names:

Bindzil, Levasil, Syntharesin, Bevasil, Cembinder, Gascon, Meyco.

- We can confirm that we have pre-registered Colloidal Silica and that we will pre-register all other imported substances relevant for the manufacture of products covered by the above-mentioned trade names before 1st December 2008.
- We will register Colloidal Silica before 1st December 2010. Regarding the imported substances relevant for the manufacture of products covered by the above-mentioned trade names, we will register them when there is no guaranty from our non-EU supplier that their Only Representative will submit a dossier.
- The products covered by the above-mentioned trade names are not classified under the directives 67/548/EEC and 1999/45/EEC, therefore there is no need to develop exposure scenarios. We do not anticipate that this situation will change with the new criteria for PBT and vPvB laid down in Annex XIII in the REACH regulation.
- In order to confirm all identified uses covered in our registration dossier we will apply a top-down approach to ensure that the correct uses are included. This means that we will contact you in due time to receive confirmation that your uses are included.
- We kindly request you not to send us individual enquires about the products that we supply to you. For further questions, please communicate with your regular contact at Eka Chemicals.

Yours sincerely,

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