

Lüdenscheid, March 2026

## Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006 (REACH)

Regulation (EC) No. 1907/2006 (REACH) is a European Union regulation that has been steadily expanding since 2006. It applies to all chemical substances, mixtures, and substances in articles. REACH affects both private and industrial applications, and therefore most companies in the EU. The only exceptions are radioactive substances, substances in pharmaceuticals, non-isolated intermediates, and applications regulated by other legislation.

REACH aims to identify, register, evaluate, authorise, and restrict hazardous substances (**R**egistration, **E**valuation, **A**uthorisation and **R**estriction of **C**hemicals). Companies are subject to various obligations. They may be required to report the risks of the substances and mixtures they manufacture or use to the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA) and, if necessary, inform downstream users about their safe handling. The core elements of the regulation are:

- Candidate List
  - Information obligation pursuant to REACH Article 33 regarding substances in articles
  - Updated at least twice a year
  - <https://echa.europa.eu/de/candidate-list-table>
- Annex XIV
  - List of substances subject to authorization
  - Substances on this list may only be used after their respective expiry dates with a temporary authorization
  - <https://echa.europa.eu/de/authorisation-list>
- Annex XVII
  - List of general restrictions on substances
  - <https://echa.europa.eu/de/substances-restricted-under-reach>

Substances on the Candidate List are subject to the information requirement under REACH Article 33 for these substances in articles at a concentration of > 0.1%. The reference point is the individual article. In this context, the judgment of the European Court of Justice (ECJ) C-106/14 of 10 September 2015 applies, according to which an article, once manufactured and integrated into a more complex object, continues to serve as the reference point for the concentration limit of the chemical substances it contains ("once an article, always an article"). The 0.1% limit therefore does not refer to the finished, complex object.



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