7 New Substances Added to SVHC Candidate List under REACH

On 15 January 2018, the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA) expanded the Candidate List of Substances of Very High Concern (SVHC) to a total of 181 entries, including seven new additions. Besides, the entry for bisphenol A (BPA) was also updated.

The Candidate List consists of substances that may have serious effects on human health or the environment. Suppliers may have legal obligations, such as when an imported or manufactured article contains a substance on the Candidate List in a concentration exceeding 0.1% (w/w), the supplier has the duty to communicate safety information to its customers down the supply chains as well as the consumers. Below is a summary of the properties of the seven newly added substances:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Substance name</th>
<th>EC No.</th>
<th>CAS No.</th>
<th>Reason(s) for inclusion</th>
<th>Usage(s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Chrysene                | 205-923-4| 218-01-9| 1. Carcinogenic (Article 57a)  
2. PBT \(^1\) (Article 57d)  
3. vPvB \(^2\) (Article 57e) | Normally not produced intentionally  
As a constituent or impurity in other substances |
| Benz[a]anthracene       | 200-280-6| 56-55-3 | 1. Carcinogenic (Article 57a)  
2. PBT (Article 57d)  
3. vPvB (Article 57e) | Normally not produced intentionally  
As a constituent or impurity in other substances |
| Cadmium nitrate         | 233-710-6| 10325-94-7| 1. Carcinogenic (Article 57a)  
2. Mutagenic (Article 57b)  
3. Specific target organ toxicity after repeated exposure (Article 57(f) - human health) | Manufacture of glass, porcelain and ceramic products  
In laboratory chemicals |
| Cadmium hydroxide       | 244-168-5| 21041-95-2| 1. Carcinogenic (Article 57a)  
2. Mutagenic (Article 57b)  
3. Specific target organ toxicity after repeated exposure (Article 57(f) - human health) | Manufacture of electrical, electronic and optical equipment  
In laboratory chemicals |
| Cadmium carbonate       | 208-168-9| 513-78-0 | 1. Carcinogenic (Article 57a)  
2. Mutagenic (Article 57b)  
3. Specific target organ toxicity after repeated exposure (Article 57(f) - human health) | As a pH regulator  
In water treatment products  
In laboratory chemicals  
In cosmetics and personal care products |
BPA has been included in the Candidate List since 12 January 2017 due to its toxicity for reproduction. Its endocrine disrupting properties, which cause adverse effects to human health, was further established as another classification for BPA in July 2017. And now, the entry of BPA has been updated again in order to reflect the adverse effects to the environment caused by its endocrine disrupting properties. The updated details of BPA are as follows:

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</table>
| 4,4’-isopropylidenediphenol (bisphenol A; BPA) | 201-245-8 | 80-05-7 | Endocrine disrupting properties (Article 57(f) - environment) | • Manufacture of polycarbonate  
• As a hardener for epoxy resins  
• As an anti-oxidant for processing PVC and in thermal paper production |

STC (The Hong Kong Standards and Testing Centre), a not-for-profit, independent testing, inspection and certification organization with over 50 years of experience in consumer product testing, provides comprehensive chemical testing services, including SVHC screening test, to ensure compliance with REACH and corresponding standards of the European Union and the United States, among other places.

For more information, please contact our Chemical, Food and Pharmaceutical Products Division.

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