REACH, Annex XVII, 74. Diisocyanates, usage in the EU, REGULATION (EU) 2020/1149
Customer information

Ladies and Gentlemen,


One essential point of the amendment relates to the requirements for the distribution and application of diisocyanates “as substances on their own, as a constituent in other substances or in mixtures”. Please consider especially but not exclusively the following excerpt from EU 2020/1149:

74. Diisocyanates, \( O=C=N-R-N=C=O \), with \( R \) an aliphatic or aromatic hydrocarbon unit of unspecified length

1. Shall not be used as substances on their own, as a constituent in other substances or in mixtures for industrial and professional use(s) after 24 August 2023, unless:
   (a) the concentration of diisocyanates individually and in combination is less than 0.1 % by weight, or
   (b) the employer or self-employed ensures that industrial or professional user(s) have successfully completed training on the safe use of diisocyanates prior to the use of the substance(s) or mixture(s).

2. Shall not be placed on the market as substances on their own, as a constituent in other substances or in mixtures for industrial and professional use(s) after 24 February 2022, unless:
   (a) the concentration of diisocyanates individually and in combination is less than 0.1 % by weight, or
   (b) the supplier ensures that the recipient of the substance(s) or mixture(s) is provided with information on the requirements referred to in point (b) of paragraph 1 and the following statement is placed on the packaging, in a manner that is visibly distinct from the rest of the label information: “As from 24 August 2023 adequate training is required before industrial or professional use”.

To our customers, who solely receive foamed articles:
The diisocyanates as substances used for the production of polyurethane (PUR) articles have reacted and the concentration of diisocyanates individually and in combination is less than 0.1% by weight. No training and no additional labelling is required (according to points (a) of paragraphs 1 and 2).
To our customers, who receive chemical components as foam systems or individual liquid polyurethane components:

Diisocyanate can be present in a concentration of more than 0.1% by weight. For evaluation of the diisocyanate concentration, please refer to section 3 of our safety data sheets. It provides information on whether 0.1% by weight or more diisocyanates are present.

→ If our products contain less than 0.1% by weight of diisocyanates, no training and no additional labelling is required (according to points (a) of paragraphs 1 and 2).

→ If our products contain more than 0.1% by weight of diisocyanates,
  
  o we commit ourselves to place the statement indicated under point (b) of paragraph 2 on the packaging by 24 February 2022 at the latest;

  o we shall ensure that you are provided with information on the requirements referred to in point (b) of paragraph 1, also by 24 February 2022 at the latest.

  o Per point (b) of paragraph 1, you as “the employer or self-employed ensure(s) that industrial or professional user(s) have successfully completed training on the safe use of diisocyanates prior to the use of the substance(s) or mixture(s)” before 24 August 2023. The elements of this mandatory training depend on the exposure level at the workplaces and are further described in the regulation (see paragraphs 4 and 5).

We kindly ask you to familiarize yourself with the new regulation in its entirety and consider what you need to do during the transitional period, so that we can continue to supply you with products containing diisocyanates beyond 24 August 2023.

Do you have any further questions regarding REACH? You can always contact us at reach@foampartner.com.

Sincerely,

Dr. Jens Hasenjäger  
Head of Global SHEQ  
FoamPartner Group

Heribert Perler  
Head of Global R&D  
FoamPartner Group