EU's Draft Regulation to Amend REACH Regarding Formaldehyde and Formaldehyde Releasers

ESTC NEWSLETTER

The European Union (EU) notified the World Trade Organization (WTO) on 2022-05-02 about its Draft Commission Regulation amending Annex XVII to Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006 (REACH), regarding formaldehyde and formaldehyde releasers.

The purpose of the amendment is to restrict the articles which formaldehyde or formaldehyde releasing substances have been intentionally added during production and that release formaldehyde into indoor air (or interior of a road vehicle) in concentrations higher than the limits established by the restriction.

Changes:

Annex XVII to Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006 will be amended by the Regulation to add a new entry, "Formaldehyde CAS No 50-00-0 EC No 200-001-8 and formaldehyde releasing substances".

The restrictions can be summarized as follows:

| Articles | Limit for Concentration | Test Method | Grace Period after the |
|---------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|
| | of Formaldehyde | | Effective Date of the |
| | Released | | Regulation |
| Wood-based Articles | 0.062 mg/m ³ | Measured in the Air of a Test | 36 Months |
| and Furniture | | Chamber at Conditions as | |
| Other Than | 0.08 mg/m ³ | Specified in the Regulation | |
| Wood-based Articles | | | |
| and Furniture | | | |
| Interior of Road | 0.062 mg/m ³ | ISO 12219-1, ISO 12219-10 | 48 Months |
| Vehicles | | or an Equivalent Method | |

Effective Date:

Proposed date of entry into force: 20 days from publication in the Official Journal of the EU. Effective date of the Regulation: **36 or 48 months thereafter**, as specified in the above table.

References:

https://docs.wto.org/dol2fe/Pages/SS/directdoc.aspx?filename=q:/G/TBTN22/EU888.pdf&Open=True https://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2022/TBT/EEC/22_3131_01_e.pdf

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FOR MORE DETAILS, PLEASE CONTACT US:

Hong Kong: <u>hktcd@stc.group</u> Dongguan: dgtcd@stc.group Changzhou: czstc@stc.group Vietnam: vnstc@stc.group U.S.A.: <u>usenquiry@stc.group</u> Germany: grstc@stc.group

Shanghai: shtcd@stc.group Japan: jpo@stc.group

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