

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:

Substance name	EC No.	CAS No.	Reason(s) for inclusion	Usage(s)
Chrysene	205-923-4	218-01-9	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Carcinogenic (Article 57a) 2. PBT¹ (Article 57d) 3. vPvB² (Article 57e) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Normally not produced intentionally ● As a constituent or impurity in other substances
Benz[a]anthracene	200-280-6	56-55-3	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Carcinogenic (Article 57a) 2. PBT (Article 57d) 3. vPvB (Article 57e) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Normally not produced intentionally ● As a constituent or impurity in other substances
Cadmium nitrate	233-710-6	10325-94-7	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Carcinogenic (Article 57a) 2. Mutagenic (Article 57b) 3. Specific target organ toxicity after repeated exposure (Article 57(f) - human health) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Manufacture of glass, porcelain and ceramic products ● In laboratory chemicals
Cadmium hydroxide	244-168-5	21041-95-2	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Carcinogenic (Article 57a) 2. Mutagenic (Article 57b) 3. Specific target organ toxicity after repeated exposure (Article 57(f) - human health) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Manufacture of electrical, electronic and optical equipment ● In laboratory chemicals
Cadmium carbonate	208-168-9	513-78-0	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Carcinogenic (Article 57a) 2. Mutagenic (Article 57b) 3. Specific target organ toxicity after repeated exposure (Article 57(f) - human health) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● As a pH regulator ● In water treatment products ● In laboratory chemicals ● In cosmetics and personal care products

Substance name	EC No.	CAS No.	Reason(s) for inclusion	Usage(s)
1,6,7,8,9,14,15,16,17,17,18,18-Dodecachloropentacyclo[12.2.1.16,9.02,13.05,10]octadeca-7,15-diene ("Dechlorane Plus"™) [covering any of its individual anti- and syn-isomers or any combination thereof]	-	-	1. vPvB (Article 57e)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As a non-plasticising flame retardant In adhesives and sealants In binding agents
Reaction products of 1,3,4-thiadiazolidine-2,5-dithione, formaldehyde and 4-heptylphenol, branched and linear (RP-HP) [with ≥0.1% w/w 4-heptylphenol, branched and linear]	-	-	1. Endocrine disrupting properties (Article 57(f) – environment)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As a lubricant additive in lubricants and greases

¹PBT: Persistent, Bioaccumulative and Toxic

²vPvB: very Persistent and very Bioaccumulative

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:

Substance name	EC No.	CAS No.	Reason(s) for update	Usage(s)
4,4'-isopropylidenediphenol (bisphenol A; BPA)	201-245-8	80-05-7	1. Endocrine disrupting properties (Article 57(f) - environment)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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.

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