



REACH 2018 SME workshop – road to successful registration

ECHA Support and National Helpdesks

Helpdesks

REACH states:

§ *Member States shall establish national helpdesks to provide advice to manufacturers, importers, downstream users and any other interested parties on their respective responsibilities and obligations under this Regulation, in particular in relation to the registration of substances in accordance with Article 12(1), in addition to the operational guidance documents provided by the Agency under Article 77(2)(g).*

Where to get support

- ECHA
- National Helpdesk in each Member State

<https://echa.europa.eu/de/support/helpdesks>

The screenshot shows the ECHA website interface. At the top, there is a blue header with the ECHA logo and the text 'EUROPEAN CHEMICALS AGENCY'. A search bar is located in the top right corner with the text 'Suche auf der ECHA-Website'. Below the header is a navigation menu with the following items: 'Über ECHA', 'Verordnungen', 'Umgang mit besorgniserregenden Stoffen', 'Informationen über Chemikalien', 'Chemikalien im Alltag', and 'Hilfe'. The main content area is titled 'Nationale Helpdesks' and contains the following text: 'Die nationalen Helpdesks sind Ihre erste Anlaufstelle für Fragen in Bezug auf Ihre Verpflichtungen gemäß der BPR-, CLP- und REACH-Verordnungen. Die Kontaktangaben der nationalen Helpdesks finden Sie unten.' Below this text is a section titled 'Nationale Helpdesks in der Europäischen Union (EU) und dem Europäischen Wirtschaftsraum (EWR)' which lists 'Austria' and 'Belgium' with right-pointing arrows. On the right side of the page, there is a 'See also' section with links to 'National helpdesks factsheet', 'Contact ECHA', and 'REACH 2018 in your language'. The page number '3' is visible in the bottom right corner.

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REACH 2018



Are you affected by the deadline?

If you manufacture chemical substances or import them from outside the EU above one tonne per year, you may have registration obligations under REACH. Additionally, if you manufacture or import a product (mixture, article), it may contain substances that need to be registered individually.

If you have pre-registered substances that you manufacture or import from outside the EU above one tonne but not more than 100 tonnes per year and have not already registered them, the REACH registration deadline of 31 May 2018 concerns you.

If you haven't yet pre-registered your substance, late pre-registration may still be an option until 31 May 2017.

> [More information](#)

Support to understand your tasks

The following pages help you to understand what you need to do and take you through the process step-by-step.

REACH 2018



468

days before the deadline

Support

- > [Contact your national REACH helpdesk or the ECHA helpdesk](#)
- > [Contact ECHA's accredited stakeholder organisations for sector specific support](#)
- > [REACH 2018 in your language](#)
- > [Are you a small or medium-sized enterprise?](#)
- > [Are you a non-EU company exporting chemicals to the EU?](#)

Whom to contact

- Contact National Helpdesk of the MS you are located in first
- ECHA – Helpdesk
 - REACH-IT
 - IUCLID 6
 - Issues not solved by National Helpdesk
- Other Helpdesks: national and EU associations offer support

Cooperation within the EU



■ HelpNet

- Cooperation of national Helpdesks and ECHA
- Information exchange on the implementation of the REACH (BPR, CLP and regulations).
- Common understanding on the legal requirements under these regulations.
- Consistent and harmonised advice to stakeholders by its members
- Training for national helpdesks.
- European Commission, observers from candidate countries and/or stakeholder organisations are also members of the Steering Group

■ Helpex (IT platform)

- Discussion of difficult question
- Database for harmonised answers

Austrian Helpdesk



Organisation:

- Competent Authority:
Ministry for Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water Management
 - Umweltbundesamt (Environment Agency Austria - EAA) acts in some fields on behalf of the CA
- ⇒ CA mandates the Umweltbundesamt to install and run the national helpdesk for REACH

Austrian Helpdesk

Tasks:

- answering questions on **what** companies generally need to do, but not **how** they should do this
- providing sufficient information for a better understanding of the duties under REACH
- helping companies finding their role(s)

BUT

→ companies have to **make basic decisions by their own**, because in-house knowledge necessary

Austrian Helpdesk - tools

- **REACH helpdesk website** (www.reachhelpdesk.at)
- **Email address**
 - recommended way to send enquires
 - reply within 1 week
 - clear formulation of questions recommended to offer clear answer
- **Telephone hotline:**
 - for common questions, which can be answered in a short time
 - standard number/call-charge, no additional costs

Written Guidance

■ **Guidance Documents**

comprehensive guidance on several topics

■ **Guidance in a nutshell**

shortened versions of the REACH Guidance Documents

■ ***Guidance Factsheets***

structured overview of Guidance documents
(will be replaced by Guidance in a nutshell)

■ **Practical Guides**

provide practical information on REACH (CLP and BPR) requirements and best practice on how to fulfil them

Role of Registrant

Registrants for 2018 face different situations like

- Joining an existing registration for a substance
- Preparation of new registration for a substance together with other registrants
- Preparation of new registration for a substance alone
- ! Clarify which position your company takes
- Lead registrant, active participant in technical discussion on data, engage a consultant, etc.

Substance Identity

- Guidance on Substance ID
- Own ECHA subpage on “Substance identification”
<https://echa.europa.eu/support/substance-identification>
- Substance Identification Profile of registered substance available in the SIEF
- Helpdesks: Support in understanding of the rules laid down in the guidance

Data requirements

- Guidance on information requirements and chemical safety assessment
Note: complex series of Guidance documents!
- Practical Guide for SME managers and REACH Coordinators: “How to fulfil your information requirements at tonnages 1-10 tpa and 10-100 tpa”
- Helpdesks: Assistance in questions like “Waiving possible”, “which non animal test methods are available”, etc.

Discussions in a SIEF/Data Sharing

- Guidance on Data Sharing
- ECHA Website: Practical advice for data sharing negotiations
(<https://echa.europa.eu/support/registration/working-together/practical-advice-for-data-sharing-negotiations>)
- Disputes (measure of last resort) are handled by ECHA
- Helpdesks: support from national Helpdesk limited

Compiling a Dossier in IUCLID

- Comprehensive support on IUCLID Website
 - Information on installation, system requirements
 - Videos (recorded webinars)
 - Manuals
 - FAQs
- ECHA Helpdesk
- Helpdesks: basically no support on REACH-IT and IUCLID
- Note: In Austria national Helpdesk provides general support on IUCLID

Navigate on ECHA Website

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Conclusions

- Basic understanding of the principles under REACH necessary
- Get used to common wording
- Formulate question to Helpdesks as concrete as possible
- Helpdesks help to find relevant information
- Always consider the source of an information
- Decisions on relevant duties and tasks have to be drawn within a company

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