

## REACH

Dear Customers,

the European Union Directive 1907/2006 concerning the Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation, and Restriction of Chemical Substances (REACH) came into effect 1 June 2007.

EU Directive 1907/2006 on REACH addresses the use of chemical substances in the manufacture of products. These substances must be registered by the manufacturer or importer.

Next to a comprehensive set of data on these substances, registration requires the provision of information on safe use of the product throughout its entire lifecycle.

In individual cases, specific substances require the implementation of risk reduction measures. In Europe, elastomer products may only be manufactured using registered substances in future. These products comply with "REACH".

The EU Directive 1907/2006 "REACH" does not impose any direct requirements on products.

Our extruded materials suppliers and their compound suppliers, in the first instance, but also you as the consumer, are considered downstream users in the supply chain and therefore are not affected by the pre-registration and registration requirement.

However, we maintain regular contact with our suppliers and pay close attention to their pre-registration and registration plans. As part of the registration of substances, we are required to indicate their specific application. As a result, we may need to contact you for information on your use of our products.

Registration only applied to compound suppliers from 1 June 2008, the resulting deadlines depend on the tonnage and hazard of the substance placed on the market.

In consideration of the registration requirement imposed on our suppliers, we cannot at this point say to what extent the raw materials which we use today will be available in the future. Most of the raw materials that we use must be registered by our upstream suppliers by 2010.

As matters stand, we do not foresee any problems here and therefore assume that none of the raw materials in our formulations will be affected, at least not with the end of the pre-registration requirement.

"REACH" stipulates information on ingredients in products only where very specific conditions are met. This applies to products containing substances in concentrations above 0.1% with the following characteristics: carcinogenic, mutagenic or toxic for reproduction in humans (category 1) or proof of such an effect in animal experiments (category 2); persistent, bioaccumulative and toxic substances, or very persistent and very bioaccumulative substances. It is to be expected that these substances will no longer be available in the future.