

## Registration, Evaluation & Authorisation of Chemicals (REACH)

The REACH directive came into force on 1<sup>st</sup> June 2007 and outlines the framework for an evolving series of steps regarding the supply chain of chemicals from the manufacturer down to the end user.

The exact details of this legislation are yet to be fully established, but several parties in the EU industrial sector are involved and they are due to report before the end of 2008. It is expected that the full legislation will not be in effect until 2018.

What the framework has established is that the manufacturers and importers of base chemicals must pre-register their products between 1<sup>st</sup> June and 1<sup>st</sup> November 2008. This, however, does not affect the manufactures or distributors of finished product.

As all E.M.C. suppliers manufacture finished product and we are a distributor, both our suppliers and ourselves are considered 'downstream users' and do not need to register our products at this stage.

We will in due course issue further statements to keep our customers fully informed of this and any other future changes in legislation and how this will affect our products.

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