

REACH Use Alignment – Request for Identified Uses

Dear Supplier,

You are certainly aware that the main objectives of the REACH Regulation are the “safe uses” and that consideration must apply to all identified uses of a substance through its lifecycle. Downstream Users (DU) have the legal right (Article 37.2) to make their uses known to their suppliers so that these uses will be assessed as to whether they can be considered safe or not.

The Cefic Taskforce "Supply Chain Communication" has developed guidelines related to the collection of all this Use Information, the “Use Alignment Process”, in order to support effective and efficient information exchange on all Uses. The manufacturers are recommended to **map uses** known from cooperation within consortia or with Downstream User associations **according** to the **Use Descriptor System** developed by ECHA. These uses should be communicated to the Downstream Users (DU) in order to give them the chance to verify if their uses have already been identified by their supplier. The aim of this communication is that DU's only need to react when their use has not been identified. It is important to understand that uses which remain unidentified will become illegal after the registration deadline.

As a distributor Brenntag has the obligation to forward Use Information within the many supply chains served by us. Brenntag Europe buys 25.000 chemicals from 5.000 suppliers which are sold to over 100.000 customers and delivered from 150 warehouses. This challenging supplier-product-customer relationship has moved Brenntag to develop a unique REACH Use Alignment tool. This tool enables to take over the information on identified uses from our suppliers and to forward this information in a standard format to all our corresponding customers via e-mail attachments. For their feedback the tool offers the capability to collect additional uses from our customers and to forward these to our suppliers.

We trust that you have already been working on the use mapping and that these identified uses are now available. We herewith kindly ask you to provide us with the uses identified and mapped according to the Use Descriptor System so that we can start the Use Alignment Process.

Timing: Please inform us about your identified uses no later than August 15th, 2009.

Please be informed that we will send the same request to consortia.

Kind regards,