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26 May 2023

EU and UK REACH statement

Dear Customer.

We would like to take this opportunity to give you an update on our continued commitment to comply with REACH Regulations applicable to the Vita Group.

The European Community Regulation No 1907/2006 concerning the Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals ("EU REACH") regulates chemical substances and mixtures, including those in final products or articles, in the EU. Key obligations include the registration of substances with the European Chemicals Agency

Under the European Union (Withdrawal) Act 2018, EU REACH was replicated and brought into UK law on 1 January 2021 and is known as UK REACH. UK REACH now regulates chemicals placed on the market in Great Britain.

Polyurethane foam products themselves are classed as Articles (with no intended release of substances) and therefore do not require to be pre-registered or registered under either UK REACH or EU REACH.

Please be assured that we are in close contact with our suppliers to maintain the continued supply and consistent quality of our products. We confirm that all raw materials we use for the manufacturing process of our flexible PU foam grades have been, where applicable, registered by our suppliers under EU REACH or are registered or covered by a Downstream User Notification submitted under UK REACH.

Separately to registration obligations, we are obliged by Article 33 in each of UK REACH and EU REACH to communicate information on substances in our products if a product contains a substance meeting the criteria in Article 57 and identified in accordance with article 59(1) in a concentration above 0,1 % weight by weight.

On January 17th 2023, melamine, which is often used as a flame retardant in PU foam, was added to the EU REACH SVHC candidate list by ECHA. Melamine is present at >0.1% (weight by weight) in many CME, CMHR and CMVE foam grades produced by Vita Cellular Foam UK Ltd. Please refer to our melamine safe use letters for specific information in this regard.

However, it is important to note that from 1 January 2021 EU REACH and UK REACH are separate chemical regulatory regimes operating in different jurisdictions and as such, any changes to the EU REACH Candidate List are not automatically implemented under UK REACH. Hence currently melamine is not an SVHC with respect to UK REACH.

No other substances included on either the UK REACH or EU REACH candidate lists are intentionally added to polyurethane foam manufactured by Vita. Vita will keep you informed about any changes to those lists if this is relevant for the products we deliver to you.

If you have any questions on the effects of UK or EU REACH, please contact us.
Yours Sincerely,
Nick Wood Operations Director Vita Cellular Foam (UK Ltd)