

Important information on the EU chemicals regulation – REACH

Ladies and Gentlemen,

On June 1, 2007, the new EU chemicals regulation, REACH (Registration, Evaluation, Authorization and Restriction of Chemicals; EC No. 1907/2006) entered into force and thus applies directly in every EU member state.

It affects not only the chemicals industry, but also producers, importers, distributors of, and dealers in, articles, such as shoes, textiles, accessories and packaging (hereafter "Products"). The prescribed legal framework thus also applies to your Products.

Article 33 of the regulation requires us to provide to distributors, and upon request to consumers, information on Products in which so-called SVHCs (Substances of Very High Concern, besonders besorgniserregende Stoffe) are found. These include substances which are:

- Category 1 or 2 carcinogens, mutagens or reproductive toxins (CMR)
- persistent, bioaccumulative and toxic (PBT)
- very persistent and very bioaccumulative (vPvB)

According to REACH, a substance is considered to be of very high concern if it has been included in the so-called Candidate List for inclusion in Annex XIV to the REACH regulation (list of substances subject to authorization) in accordance with Article 59.

The obligation to provide information in compliance with the REACH regulation applies to Products containing substances of very high concern in a concentration of more than 0.1 % weight by weight (Massenprozent).

In addition, a substance listed in Annex XVII to REACH may be used or placed on the market only in compliance with restrictions set out in that Annex.

In principle, our companies always make every effort to protect the health of our consumers by substituting harmless substances for SVHCs wherever possible. We request that you to take this into account and implement it through technical improvement.

We must therefore require that, with immediate effect, no chemical substances which are listed in the Candidate List are detectable in any Product which you supply to us.

We must also require that, with immediate effect, no chemical substances which are listed in Annex XVII are detectable in any Product which you supply to us.

As a producer we, like all companies in the industry, are required to implement this EU regulation with consistency. We can only do so with your help.

We assume that none of the Products which you supply to us contain substances found in the Candidate List at a concentration of more than 0.1% weight by weight of Annex XIV, which we ask you to confirm with the suppliers declaration.

We also assume that none of the Products which you supply to us contain substances listed in Annex XVII to REACH, which we ask you to confirm with the suppliers declaration.

Suppliers declaration on REACh

Supplier Name: _____

Ladies and Gentlemen,

We hereby confirm and guarantee that:

(i) none of the Products (including shoes, textiles, accessories and packaging) we supply to Erich Rhode GmbH contain any substances found in the Candidate List established by the European Chemicals Agency in accordance with Article 59 of REACh as amended from time to time; and

(ii) none of the Products (including shoes, textiles, accessories and packaging) we supply to Erich Rhode GmbH contain any substances listed in Annex XVII to REACH.

Place / Date

Legal Signature

Company stamp