

## **What is REACH?**

REACH is a European Community Regulation on chemicals and their safe use. It deals with the **Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemical** substances.

REACH requires the registration of approximately 30,000 chemical substances produced in or imported into the European Union (EU). REACH collects information for use in the regulation of chemicals including carcinogens, mutagens, teratogens, and other potentially hazardous substances and identifies risk management measures to ensure their safe use.

## **Who is impacted by REACH?**

Many manufacturers and importers are learning that REACH legislation will have large impacts on business conducted in Europe.

Manufacturers and importers are responsible for gathering and registering information on the properties of their chemical substances, identifying the measures needed to manage risks, and providing safety information on the substances. **Registration is mandatory before a new chemical can be marketed and to keep an existing chemical on the market.** The extent of the information required for each chemical depends on the volume of the chemical produced or imported.

## **When is REACH being implemented?**

REACH legislation is being phased in over an 11-year period. Companies had until December 1, 2008, to pre-register qualifying substances. Pre-registration gives companies up to 10 years to complete the full registration process while continuing to market their products.

The deadline for full registration depends on the volumes and, in some cases, the hazard rating of the substance. Higher hazard and volume substances must be registered by December 2010, moderate volume substances by June 2013, and low volume substances by June 2018.

## **How SpringerMaterials can help**

SpringerMaterials comprises to date over 40,000 documents that companies can use to comply with REACH requirements. Extensive information is available on substances chemical and physical properties, hazards and safe use data, toxicity data, and the impact of chemicals on the environment.