

EUROPEAN DIISOCYANATES RESTRICTION PROPOSAL

SAPICI Positioning and Recommendations

SUMMARY OF THIS DOCUMENT

This document originates from the Dossier submitted in October 2016 by Germany to ECHA aimed at restricting the use of Diisocyanates in Europe. It presents SAPICI's supporting positioning towards the principles of the human health and the environment preservation and protection, along with SAPICI's recommendations that such initiatives shall not damage the European Chemical Industry's international competitiveness, but value instead both the investments and the progressive solid results being achieved by the European Chemical Industry through its players, particularly in terms of EH&S-driven innovation. SAPICI shares through this document further evidence about its products and solutions complying with the most stringent laws and regulations — including the proposed new restrictions — available to its clients since 2004.

THE ECHA FRAME

The European Chemicals Agency (ECHA) is the driving force among regulatory authorities in implementing the EU's groundbreaking chemicals legislation for the benefit of human health and the environment, as well as for innovation and competitiveness. ECHA works together with the European Commission and the EU Member States for the safety of human health and the environment by identifying the needs for regulatory risk management at a EU-wide level.

The Member States or ECHA (at the request of the Commission) initiate the identification of substances of very high concern and restrictions, and Industry can submit applications for authorisation. The process for harmonised classification and labelling of substances may be initiated by Member States and by manufacturers, importers or downstream users.

ECHA (at the request of the Commission) or Member States may prepare dossiers for the identification of substances of very high concern (SVHCs) and dossiers proposing restrictions (Annex XV of REACH). Dossiers proposing harmonised classification and labelling of substances may be prepared by MSCAs and manufacturers, importers or downstream users.

The aim of the public Registry of Intentions (RoI) is to make interested parties aware of the substances for which a CLH, SVHC or restriction dossier is intended to be submitted. ECHA welcomes all members of the public to give their contributions during the different consultation phases of the authorisation, restriction and harmonised classification and labelling processes.

THE GERMAN INITIATIVE FOR THE RESTRICTION IN THE USE OF DIISOCYANATES WITHIN EUROPE

Germany submitted (October 2016) to ECHA a Dossier aimed at further restricting the use of Diisocyanates in Europe. The scope of the restriction is officially summarised as follows:

Diisocyanates:

- 1. Shall not be used as substances on their own, as a constituent in other substances or in mixtures for industrial and professional uses, unless:**
 - a) The cumulative concentration of diisocyanates in the substance or mixture is less than 0.1 % by weight, or

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info@sapici.it
www.sapici.it



- b) The substance or mixture in the form in which it is supplied to the user, including the combination of such substance or mixture, its packaging and any application aid is placed on the market in accordance with paragraph 2b), *or*
- c) The employer or self-employed worker ensures that measures and trainings are taken prior to the use of the substances or mixtures in accordance with the provisions described in Appendix 13[1] (Trainings and Measures).

Member States may implement or continue to apply own provisions for the use of these substances and mixtures as long as the minimum requirements of Appendix Trainings and Measures are met. The employer or self-employed worker shall document the compliance to the requirements of Appendix 13 (Trainings and Measures). Proof of successful completion of a training according to Appendix 13 (Trainings and Measures) shall be recognised in all other Member States.

2. Shall not be placed on the market as substances on their own, as a constituent in other substances or in mixtures for industrial and professional uses, unless:

- a) The cumulative concentration of diisocyanates in the substance or mixture is less than 0.1 % by weight, *or*
- b) The substance or mixture in the form in which it is supplied to the user, including the combination of such substance or mixture, its packaging and any application aid is compliant with Appendix 12 (Exemptions), *or*
- c) The supplier ensures that the recipient of the substance or mixture is provided with information according to paragraph 3.

3. For the purpose of 2c) manufacturers and importers of diisocyanates on their own or as a constituent in other substances and importers of mixtures containing diisocyanates shall develop a set of teaching material in accordance with the provisions of Appendix 13 (Trainings and Measures) in an official language of the Member State where the substance or mixture is placed on the market before placing the substance or mixture on the market. They shall ensure that training courses based on the training material are available to the recipients of such substances or mixtures. They shall review and update the training material after a maximum of 8 years, or without delay if new information, which may affect the risk management measures, becomes available and inform the recipients accordingly.

Natural or legal persons formulating mixtures containing diisocyanates within the EU shall provide necessary information for the development of the teaching material upon request of their substance suppliers. All downstream users may be consulted for the purpose of the development and update of the teaching material.

**SAPICI'S SUPPORT
TO THE INITIATIVE IN
PRINCIPLES**

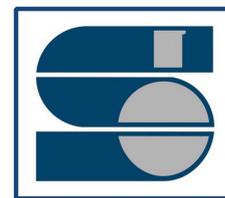
SAPICI welcomes the continued and strengthened attention that the European and global legislative bodies promote and direct towards the human health and the environment preservation and protection, valuing both the investments and the results achieved by the most attentive, sensitive and capable Companies in terms of EH&S-driven innovation. Such results are expressed and measured by both the resources dedicated to the use of always "green/greener" raw materials, technologies and manufacturing standards, followed by the commercialisation of competitive and technology-intensive products and solutions that respect the most stringent international laws, regulations and standards.

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At the same time, SAPICI believes that for any standard PU application where formulations below 0.1% cannot be developed yet, the market should be allowed to use the available products, always in full respect of the existing laws, regulations and best practices.

**EVIDENCE
OF SAPICI'S
READINESS:
PRODUCTS AND
SOLUTIONS
AVAILABLE
TO SAPICI'S
CLIENTS
SINCE 2004**

SAPICI's clients know that **since 2004** the Company has been developing, manufacturing and commercialising truly advanced polyurethane products and solutions fully compliant even with the proposed further restrictions currently being suggested by the German Dossier submitted to ECHA.

Already thirteen years ago, first in the world SAPICI was introducing aromatic isocyanates with **ultra-low free monomer** content (less than 0.1%) representing a milestone in the Coating and Adhesives industries and still a benchmark in the market.

That means that even in case those restrictions would pass the on-going public consultation (six months ending September 2017) and they would be implemented, **there would be no changes for SAPICI's clients already using ultra-low free monomer products**: neither in terms of product supply, nor in terms of linear pricing.

As regards labelling, SAPICI's innovative and sustainable Aromatic (both MDI and TDI based), Aliphatic and Hybrid Aromatic/Aliphatic Polurgreen Line of isocyanate products with ultra-low free monomer (<0.1%) already make it possible for the clients to downgrade their own products' Hazard Pictograms and Statements from "danger" to just "warning" — without the use of the Serious Health Hazard Pictogram —, thus immediately showing the lowering of the potential risk of the final products. Such advantages would not be possible with other SAPICI products containing even just <0.5% concentration of free monomer.

SAPICI **ultra-low free monomer** (<0.1%) Polurgreen Line of products include — as an example — the: AD 01, HR 01, OK 01, FP 75 01, MT 100 01, MT 90 01, MT 100 LV 01, MT 100 LLV 01, MT 75 01, 6050, and more.

SAPICI wishes to reassure its clients that the Company is not planning to discontinue its standard polyurethane product range.

**SAPICI'S
RECOMMENDATIONS
ABOUT FURTHER
RESTRICTIONS**

While fully endorsing, sustaining and implementing the strictest standards for the continuous respect of the human health and the environment preservation and protection, SAPICI recommends that the identification and implementation of parameters, methods and values for chemical products evaluation and circulation in Europe shall not damage the European chemical industry's licence to operate and its ability to develop and offer polyurethane-based customised solutions to its clients. Neither the restrictions should impact the international competitiveness of the European industry.

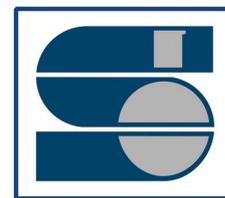
SAPICI is confident that any further decisions regarding the use and circulation of chemicals in Europe — including but not limited to the hereby referred Dossier submitted by Germany to ECHA and aimed at further restricting the use of Diisocyanates in Europe — will be taken in respect of the demonstrated commitment, the achieved results and the progressive continuous improvements that the Industry through its players has been able to show and sustain.

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ABOUT SAPICI

Established in Italy in 1936, S.A.P.I.C.I. S.p.A. is a global innovation and full-quality driven developer and manufacturer of advanced and high-performance polyurethane products for such applications as Coating, Flexible Packaging, Industrial Adhesives, Prepolymers, Inks, and more. SAPICI combines its product offering with direct and tailored services to its clients worldwide including continued technical assistance, research and development, and industrialization. SAPICI technical knowhow and testing and analysis equipment allow its highly qualified workforce to anticipate and satisfy the needs and requirements of its most demanding clients, contributing to paving their way to further sustainable success. Over 160 SAPICI employees located in the Company's commercial offices and in the three production sites in Italy and China serve their customers supported by a capillary technical and commercial global organization. More information about SAPICI is available at www.sapici.it.

**REFERENCES
FOR FURTHER
INFORMATION**

The text of the hereby-referred Restriction Proposal is available here:
<https://echa.europa.eu/registry-of-submitted-restriction-proposal-intentions/-/substance-rev/15016/term>.

The Annex to the submitted Restriction Proposal is available here:
<https://echa.europa.eu/documents/10162/f210a2bf-bc8f-4a1c-b532-8a8fe3682321>.

**DATE AND PLACE
OF ISSUING OF THIS
DOCUMENT**

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SAPICI Headquarters
Caronno Pertusella (Varese, Italy)

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