



Information requirements on hazardous substances in products

Eco-design Directive
2nd Stakeholders meeting on Eco-design
Evaluation

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Why Eco-design?

Council conclusions (Dec 2010) invites the Commission and MS to further efforts to support sustainable material management throughout the life-cycle of products, e.g;

- Making optimal use of the provisions of the Eco-design Directive. Not only taking account of energy efficiency in the use phase of products but also other significant environmental criteria (resource efficiency)
- Exploring ways of reducing the use of hazardous substances, promoting substitution, facilitating reuse and recycling and avoiding recirculation of hazardous substances in reused materials

Why Eco-design?

Commissions "Roadmap to a Resource Efficient Europe"
(Sept 2011)

In order to promote further sustainable consumption and production the Commission will;

- Boost the material resource efficiency requirements of products by setting requirements under the Eco-design Directive.

Why Information?

Information on hazardous substances in products is a key to informed decisions and may thereby facilitate;

- Increased Resource Efficiency
 - Eco-design of new products
 - Sustainable and cost-efficient waste treatment
 - Safer reuse/recycling of material
 - Prevention of adverse effects on consumers and workers

Limitations in the present Information exchange on hazardous substances in articles

REACH-regulation (art 33) – information requirements on certain hazardous substances in articles to certain stakeholders and consumers

- SVHC on candidate list
- Supply chain, excluding end-of-life treatment operators
- > 0,1 weight% in the complete article

How

Develop a mechanism to support informed decisions in the commercial supply chain and facilitate non-hazardous and resource efficient material cycles by means of;

- Easy accessible information (web-sites)
- In a standardized format
- Redistribute information on already identified hazardous substances – not generating new knowledge on toxicity of substances
- Little extra administrative burden for companies
- Facilitating benefits for companies and society

How

In order to support the work of end-of-life treatment operators the information should;

- be made available as soon as the products are placed on the market
- include presence and content of substances
- refer to the materials in the product, and not the complete product.

Which Substances

- Substances identified as hazardous to human health and/or the environment and listed in CLP/GHS database of substances should be in scope
- As a first step of improving the current information requirements under the chemical legislation and thereby making sure that recycling facilities has the information they require to handle/recycle waste in a safe and cost effective manner
 - SVHCs on the candidate list of Reach
 - Substances in exempted uses in RoHS and present under the limit-values (0,1/0,01% by weight in homogenous material)

Proposal

Centre for Strategy and Evaluation Services should in their upcoming work with the final report and recommendations to the Commission look further into the feasibility to include improved information requirements on hazardous substances in products under the eco-design Directive.

Thank You!

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