



For immediate release

Brussels, 30 June 2009

Plastics Exposure Team Project, cost savings for plastics converters

REACH implementation is speeding up and specific duties have to be fulfilled by plastics converters.

In order to comply with REACH article 37 plastics converters must, by the latest 1 December 2009, make their uses known to their suppliers. These uses will have to be taken into account in the Chemical Safety Assessments of the substances manufacturers. By 1 December 2010 those suppliers will have to register the uses they support to the European Chemicals Agency for larger volume substances (more than 1000T). This is a unique opportunity for converters to secure the future of their products. If a use is not supported, a converter will have the choice between developing an own Chemical Safety Report or discontinue the use of this starting substance. *'Converters may well have additional costs for securing their end markets under the REACH Regulation if their end uses are not communicated to their suppliers'* said Alexandre Dangis, EuPC Managing Director.

Brussels-based plastics converters' body, EuPC, has set-up a project together with the most important additive, compounders and masterbatchers and polymer producers associations. The objective of the Plastics Exposure Team Project (PEST Project) is to make an inventory of converters applications and processes and to define areas of safe use for 90-to 95% major applications.

More specifically the PEST project shall provide instructions to plastics converting companies in order to identify their uses to their suppliers as part of a unified and standardized industry approach. This approach will endeavor to streamline and minimize the necessary company to company exchange of information. After the use identification phase, EuPC shall also report to the partners in the Project on a quarterly basis on the evolution of the development of "areas of safe use", therefore enabling converters to take contact in time with their suppliers and make sure their uses will be supported.

All companies shall contact their respective national or European sectoral associations to facilitate the information flow towards PEST (<http://www.plasticsconverters.eu/network/npa>). The uses of the member companies of those associations shall then be scrutinized in detail by a Project Manager appointed by the Project.

For more information on this topic, please contact:

Geoffroy Tillieux



European Plastics Converters
Avenue de Cortenbergh 66, 1000 Bruxelles
T. +32 (0)2 732 41 24 - F. +32 (0)2 732 42 18
E-mail: geoffroy.tillieux@eupc.org
Web site: www.plasticsconverters.eu
