SunChemical®
a member of the DIC group
Color & Comfort

Regulatory Newsletter Spring 2026

This newsletter provides updates on important regulatory issues and developments of interest to Sun Chemical customers.

Executive Summary – Spring 2026 Regulatory Landscape

Industry associations — Spring 2026 brings a wave of regulatory developments across the printing ink, food-contact, and global chemicals sectors. In Europe, Germany has expanded Annex 14 of the Ink Ordinance with additional assessed substances and extended the transition period for compliance to 31 December 2026, giving manufacturers more time to adjust formulations. At EU level, the 33rd Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) Competent Authorities Meeting reaffirmed that the proposed 0.2 ppm Polychlorinated Biphenyl (PCB) Unintentional Trace Contaminant (UTC) limit will continue to include derogations for pigments and dyes, including recycled materials. EuPIA has released the 5th edition of its Good Manufacturing Practice (GMP) for food-contact printing inks, effective January 2026. Meanwhile, Cefic warns that creating an inert-dust threshold alongside the Poorly Soluble Low-Toxicity (PSLT) Occupational Exposure Limit (OEL) lacks proper process, offers limited stakeholder input, and could heavily impact pigments and mineral industries. In industry news, CPMA appointed Robert F. Helminiak as its new Executive Director.

Food-contact materials are under heightened scrutiny worldwide. EFSA has proposed a significantly lower Tolerable Weekly Intake (TWI) for dioxins and dioxin-like PCBs—0.6 pg WHO-TEQ/kg bw/week, down from 2 pg/kg—following updated WHO potency factors that invalidate earlier human data. The new limit, based on reduced sperm production in animal studies, translates to an extremely low equivalent Specific Migration Limit (SML) of roughly 5 pg/kg food, which may require more stringent analytical controls for inks and pigments containing inadvertent dioxin-like PCBs. UK is consulting on a ban on BPA and related bisphenols in food-contact materials, aligning with EU measures and favoring the 0.2 µg/kg bw/day limit. In the US, FDA plans to phase out petroleum-based synthetic dyes by 2026, accelerating approvals of natural alternatives and urging early removal of Red No. 3. China is updating its Food Contact Material (FCM) positive list, authorising new additives and approving Polyethylene Furanoate (PEF) as a food-contact resin. India has proposed bans on Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) and BPA in FCM production, with implementation expected shortly after final publication.

EU chemicals policy continues to evolve rapidly. The EU has adopted the "stop-the-clock" regulation, delaying new Classification, Labelling and Packaging Regulation (CLP) requirements—including font size, contrast, and relabeling deadlines—until 1 January 2028. In biocides, the regulatory outlook for ethanol has shifted: after years of debate, the committee concluded that safe use is demonstrated for disinfectant applications and did not propose a hazard classification, while Greece's CLP proposal has been postponed to December 2026 pending new dermal data. The revised Toy Safety Regulation (TSR) entered into force on 1 January 2026, introducing a digital product passport and bans on PFAS and bisphenols. Norway's rosin proposals face Risk Assessment Committee`s (RAC) opinion while industry argues that observed reproductive effects are non-intrinsic. Additional EU developments include a 19.5% increase in REACH fees, and ECHA's recommendation to add melamine to the REACH Authorization List.

Global Regulatory Developments, Australia has launched the Advancing Plastics Recycling in Australia (APRA) project to support packaging reform and strengthen domestic plastics recycling. Ukraine has proposed extending registration deadlines by up to three years due to wartime economic pressures, with new timelines stretching to 2033. France's national PFAS ban on consumer products took effect in January 2026, with broader textile restrictions planned for 2030. UNITAR confirmed that the US withdrawal from several UN bodies will not affect its work on chemical management. In Great Britain, Health and Safety Executive`s (HSE) 2026 technical report proposes classifying talc as Specific Target Organ Toxicity Repeated Exposure (STOT RE) 1 (lungs), diverging from the EU RAC's carcinogenicity proposal, with final decisions pending ministerial review.

Industry Associations – Opinions And Positions

German Printing Ink Ordinance - update of Annex 14 and extended transitional period

With the ordinance amending the German Consumer Goods Ordinance, which was approved by the Federal Council (Bundesrat) on December 19, 2025 and published on December 29th, additional substances that have been evaluated by the Federal Institute for Risk Assessment (BfR), are included in Annex 14 of the German Consumer Goods Ordinance ("German Ink Ordinance", GIO). Furthermore, the transition period for the applicability of the provisions for printed food contact materials is extended by one year, i.e., until December 31, 2026.

Within the last years, printing ink industry has worked intensively on the implementation of the new rules, including reformulations. Although many important raw materials are not yet included, it was possible to develop suitable printing inks for nearly all applications.

Nevertheless, the VdL (Association of the German Varnish and Printing Ink Industry) sees the postponement positive, as it gives printing ink manufacturers and converters the opportunity to further refine and optimize the application process, particularly for special applications such as direct food contact.

Though, as the fundamental problems and shortcomings of the ordinance remain, VdL does not expect Annex 14 to be completely amended within 2026. A few substances might be added; however, it will not significantly change the overall picture.

33rd POPs Competent Authorities Meeting – Discussion on PCB UTC Limit Amendment

During the 33rd Meeting of the Competent Authorities (CA) on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs), held on 28th November 2025, the current draft proposal, setting a UTC limit value of 0.2 ppm with a derogation for organic pigments and dyes, was presented again. In the cause of this meeting was clarified that the derogation applies also to recycled material.

The oil refining industry association GEIR proposed a 10ppm limit due to the quantification limit of their method used. ECHA replied that nowadays low-resolution mass spectroscopy is a capable and validated method to detect these low limit values. PCBs would not be a challenge anymore and the laboratories would have to adapt their methods according to the new limits.

5th GMP guidance document for printing inks for food contact materials by EuPIA

The EuPIA GMP guidance document was revised and the 5th version adopted during the last PIFOOD meeting in November 2025. EuPIA members are expected to introduce this GMP from 1st January 2026.

This Guidance document has been prepared to assist in controlling food safety hazards in the design and manufacture of inks, varnishes and coatings designed to be printed onto Food Contact Materials (FCM printing inks) and formulated for use on either the non-food contact or the food contact surfaces of food packaging and articles intended to come into contact with food.

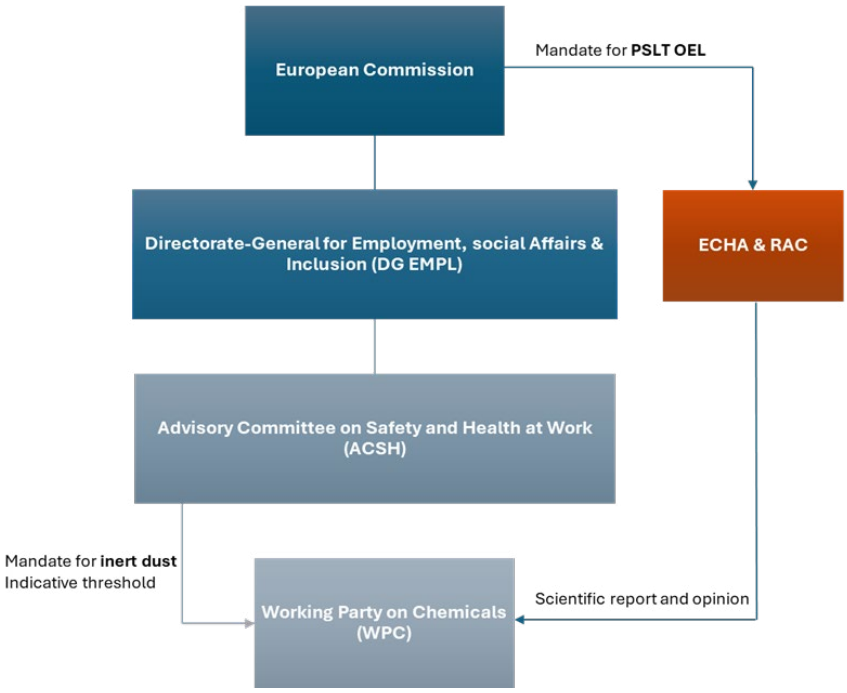
Products developed and manufactured in compliance with this GMP are supporting manufacturers of food contact materials in supplying products compliant to the applicable legislation in Europe for materials and articles intended to come into contact with food such as the Framework Regulation (EC) No 1935/2004, and GMP Regulation (EC) No 2023/2006.

Proposal for an indicative threshold for inert dusts

In addition to the RAC Mandate on an occupational exposure limit (OEL) for Poorly soluble, low toxicity particles (PSLT) and the ongoing scoping study, the Advisory Committee (ACSH) asked the Working Party on Chemicals (WPC) to define a threshold for inert dusts. Currently this exposure limit is intended to be an indicative threshold and aims to include also soluble dusts such as calcium carbonate. Next steps will be discussed in a WPC meeting in March.

The Cefic Particle Platform is going to prepare a position paper because the process for the setting of an indicative threshold does not comprise the same steps as the setting of a binding OEL and participation for stakeholder is limited. Cefic questions furthermore the need for an additional exposure limit because the number of chemicals that would not already been covered by the PSLT OEL is rather low.

Both, the PSLT OEL as well as the limit for inert dusts, would have far-reaching impact on manufacturing and downstream uses of organic and inorganic pigments, fillers and various natural, insoluble minerals.



CPMA's Next Executive Director

Robert F. Helminiak has been appointed as the next Executive Director of the Colour Pigments Manufacturers Association (CPMA).

Robert served as Vice President of Legal & Government Relations at the Society of Chemical Manufacturers & Affiliates (SOCMA), where he led national advocacy efforts, strengthened regulatory engagement, and helped guide a strategic transformation that expanded membership, grew non-dues revenue, and increased value for members across the specialty chemicals value chain.

Robert succeeds David Wawer, who is retiring after 11 years of dedicated service as CPMA's Executive Director. Under David's leadership, CPMA strengthened its role as the recognized voice for the North American colour pigments industry, successfully navigating regulatory challenges and building valuable partnerships throughout the sector.

Food Contact Materials

EFSA public consultation on dioxin-like PCBs in feed and food

In 2024 EFSA received a mandate from the European Commission to update the opinion on dioxin and dioxin-like PCBs in feed and food until April 2026. The draft was published in November 2025 and discussed in a public consultation and a webinar. The updated opinion proposes a new tolerable weekly intake (TWI) of 0.6 pg WHO 2022-TEQ per kilogram of body weight per week, replacing the previous limit of 2 pg/kg set in 2018 that had been based on a Russian Children's Study of semen quality. This update was prompted because in 2022, WHO changed how it evaluates the potency of these chemicals. This new evaluation changed how their combined impact is assessed and removed the previous link between overall dioxin levels and health effects in people. As a result, the Russian Children's Study, which was the main basis for the old limit, can no longer be used.

EFSA therefore relied on the most sensitive endpoint observed in animals: reduced sperm production in male offspring following maternal exposure to TCDD (the most potent dioxin). Using benchmark dose modeling and toxicokinetic calculations, and applying an uncertainty factor for human variability, EFSA derived the new TWI. The consultation closed on 26 January 2026, and EFSA is now going to finalize its opinion.

Dioxins and dioxin-like PCBs	Current thresholds	New thresholds
Tolerable Weekly Intake [pg/kg bodyweight/week]	2	0.6
SML (60 kg person, 1kg packed food/day in pg)	17.1	5.1

Although the opinion focuses on dietary exposure, its implications extend to food-contact packaging. Some printing inks and pigments are known to contain inadvertent PCBs formed during manufacturing. With stricter migration limits for dioxins and dioxin-like PCBs in place, ink producers may need to enhance analytical controls of raw materials and products. Based on EFSA's proposed TWI and standard EU assumptions (a 60 kg adult consuming 1 kg of food in contact with packaging per day), the equivalent specific migration limit (SML) would be around 5 pg WHO 2022-TEQ per kilogram of food—an extremely low level.

UK food authority consults on banning BPA and bisphenols in FCMs

The UK's Food Standards Agency (FSA) has opened a public consultation on a proposed ban of bisphenol A (BPA) and related bisphenols in food contact materials (FCMs), aligning with a similar regulatory move already adopted in the EU. The proposal would prohibit the use of these substances in coatings, varnishes and plastics commonly found in food packaging and processing. It follows a review conducted last year by the UK's Committee on Toxicity (COT), which assessed emerging scientific evidence on BPA.

COT reviewed EFSA's tolerable daily intake (TDI) for BPA alongside BfR's 2023 assessment. In June 2024, it published a position paper expressing concern about BPA's potential effects on the immune and reproductive systems. However, COT noted that EFSA's proposed TDI was extremely low and likely impractical under current usage conditions. Instead, it endorsed BfR's daily limit of 0.2µg/kg body weight, describing it as more scientifically robust and appropriate.

Following the 12-week consultation that closed in December 2025, the agency will provide final recommendations to ministers.

US FDA to Phase Out Petroleum-Based Synthetic Dyes

In April 2025, the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and the US Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) announced a series of steps intended to phase out all petroleum-based synthetic dyes from the US food supply by the end of 2026. Importantly, the proposed phase out of synthetic food dyes will depend on "voluntary" compliance from regulated industry.
The specific measures announced by FDA in the press release include:

- Establishing a national standard and timeline for the food industry to transition from petrochemical-based dyes to natural alternatives.
- Initiating the process to revoke authorization for two synthetic food colourings—Citrus Red No. 2 and Orange B—within the coming months.
- Working with industry to eliminate six remaining synthetic dyes—FD&C Green No. 3, FD&C Red No. 40, FD&C Yellow No. 5, FD&C Yellow No. 6, FD&C Blue No. 1, and FD&C Blue No. 2—from the food supply by the end of next year.
- Authorizing four new natural colour additives in the coming weeks, while also accelerating the review and approval of others.
- Partnering with the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to conduct comprehensive research on how food additives impact children's health and development.
- Requesting food companies to remove FD&C Red No. 3 sooner than the 2027-2028 deadline previously required.

In addition, FDA has requested that industry cease use of FD&C Red No. 3 even sooner than the 2027-2028 deadline required under the January 2025 order revoking use of this synthetic dye in foods and ingested drug products. Red No. 3 has been under particular scrutiny as studies have attempted to evaluate the potential link between the dye and certain cancer outcomes.

Even though only a "voluntary ban" has been announced, more than twenty US states have introduced legislation to restrict the use of petroleum-based synthetic dyes so far. For example, West Virginia enacted House Bill 2354 which prohibits certain the sale of any food product in the state that contains the dyes Red 3, Red 40, Yellow 5, Yellow 6, Blue 1, Blue 2 and Green 3. Thus, food companies will soon to be forced to reformulate their products nationwide or they will have to create multiple formulations for different states.

In parallel, US FDA will authorize new natural colour additives to support the transition. The agency announced in May 2025 the approval of Galdieria extract blue, Butterfly pea flower extract (blue) and Calcium Phosphate (white colour additive). A replacement of synthetic dyes with natural alternatives of an entire company`s portfolio might take however some years to achieve e.g. the desired shading and stability.


SunChemical®
a member of the DIC group
DIC
Color & Comfort
Sustainability Transformed
We're redefining sustainability through innovation. From recycling-compliant solutions to responsible stewardship, our products empower a cleaner, environmentally-conscious future. Together, we create value beyond compliance—building transparency, circularity, and transformation for generations to come.
Explore how our sustainable solutions can drive your packaging innovation journey:
sunchemical.com/sustainability
Experience. Transformation.

China updates list of substances available for FCM use

China's National Centre for Food Safety Risk Assessment (CFSA) is proposing regulatory changes to expand and update its list of permitted substances in food contact materials (FCMs), including raising the usage limit of an existing additive and approving several new substances. In a draft announcement the CFSA outlined plans to increase the permitted-use level of erucamide in PVC, authorise cobalt bis(2-ethylhexanoate) as a new additive for polyester resins, and approve poly(ethylene furandicarboxylate) (PEF) and two new coating resins for use in food contact applications.

The proposal would raise the maximum usage limit of erucamide, an existing additive, in polyvinyl chloride (PVC) plastic materials and products from 1% to 2.7%. Erucamide-containing PVC plastics are considered safe for all populations but must not be used for foods containing more than 50% ethanol or for oily or fatty foods. The operating temperature must not exceed 126°C.

The draft would also authorise cobalt bis(2-ethylhexanoate) as a new additive in unsaturated polyester (UP) resin plastics intended for food contact, with a maximum usage level of 0.02%. This substance promotes cross-linking and curing of UP resins and improves processing by preventing crystallisation at low temperatures.

PEF would be approved as a new food contact resin for use in plastics. Known for its gas-barrier properties, mechanical strength and heat-deformation resistance, PEF plastic could be used for long-term storage at room temperature after filling – including when a container has been hot-filled or pasteurised. Migration testing must cover at least 180 days of contact. The food contact surface must not contain free fat, and ethanol content must not exceed 10%. Multiple SMLs are applicable in PEF's case – 5mg/kg for 2,5-furandicarboxylic acid, 30mg/kg for ethylene glycol and 6mg/kg for acetaldehyde.

India proposes ban on use of PFAS and BPA in FCM production

The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has proposed a ban on the use of PFAS in the manufacture of food contact materials (FCMs). In a draft regulation published in the Gazette of India on 6 October, the FSSAI also stated that FCMs made from polycarbonate and epoxy resins should be free from bisphenol A (BPA) and its derivatives.

The amendments follow collaborative research by the Central Scientific and Industrial Research Institute (CSIR) and the Institute of Toxicology Research, both of which are spearheading India's efforts to develop advanced PFAS detection methods and inform regulatory policy.

This initiative builds on FSSAI's March decision to permit the use of recycled polyethylene terephthalate (PET) in FCMs, contingent on the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) finalising its standard for PET recyclates derived from post-consumer waste. In a related consultation paper also released in March, BIS proposed that all FCMs should be "completely free from BPA".

The additional restrictions will be effective 60 days from the date the final version is published in the Gazette.

Europe – Upcoming Chemicals Legislations And Guidance Documents

Stop the clock regulation of the CLP omnibus package approved

EU ministers gave final approval to postpone the application dates of many provisions under the revision of the CLP Regulation to 1 January 2028. The 'stop-the-clock' legislation is the first part of the chemical's omnibus package that the European Commission submitted in July. It is part of a wider simplification effort aimed at strengthening the EU's competitiveness.

The postponement also gives lawmakers more time to finalise the second part of the omnibus package, which covers further amendments to the CLP as well as updates to the cosmetics and fertilisers regulations. Member states agreed on their negotiating mandate for this second package on 5 November and talks with Parliament will start as soon as MEPs agree on their position. The legislative act entered into force December 23rd.

The points affected are:

- Labelling requirements such as minimum font size, line spacing, contrast, black on white, etc.
- Advertisement
- Distance sales
- Deadlines for updating labelling in the event of a change in classification

The deadline for these points is now January 1st 2028. The Commission will use the time gained to make substantive changes to the articles in the CLP-Revision. These will also include new transition periods for products already on the market.

Biocides Committee backs ethanol in disinfectants without hazard classification

Where we were: Ethanol was under intense scrutiny following Greece's proposal to classify it as Reprotoxic Category 2 under the CLP Regulation, with a submission originally due by July 2025. In parallel, the Biocidal Products Committee (BPC) Working Groups suggested in autumn 2024 that ethanol should be classified as Carcinogenicity and Reproductive Toxicity Category 1, and possibly mutagenic. This led to ethanol being identified as a Candidate for Substitution under the BPR, triggering an assessment of alternatives and raising concerns about severe restrictions on its use in disinfectants. At that time, the expectation was that the BPC would deliver its opinion by the end of 2025, and industry feared far-reaching consequences for chemicals, cosmetics, and inks. The classification proposals were based on oral exposure data, which was argued irrelevant for technical uses such as hand sanitizers and industrial processes.

Where we are now: The regulatory timeline has shifted significantly. The BPC failed to reach consensus during its November 2025 meeting and postponed its opinion until at least May 2026, with further discussions scheduled for February. The delay reflects ongoing disagreements over hazards and the availability of alternatives. Meanwhile, the European Commission has publicly committed to considering all socio-economic impacts and real-world exposure routes before making any decision. Surprisingly, during its 23 February meeting, the BPC found that "safe use has been demonstrated" for ethanol in human health, surface, and food and feed area disinfectants (product-types one, two and four) and proposed approval for these uses under the Biocidal Products Regulation (BPR). The committee did not propose a hazard classification for ethanol, saying it "did not reach a conclusion" on the chemical's properties. Although the dossier was "complete", it lacked data on dermal exposure, BPC said. Evidence for carcinogenic and reprotoxic effects would stem primarily from data on the consumption of alcoholic beverages.

On the CLP side, Greece's harmonized classification proposal has been postponed to December 31, 2026, as new dermal study data are awaited. A RAC opinion is not expected before mid-2028. The Commission is exploring options to link classification to specific exposure routes to avoid unintended consequences for other sectors.

Revision of the Toy Safety Directive

Members of the European Parliament have voted in favour of the revised Toy Safety Regulation (TSR) during a meeting on 11 November 2025. The Internal Market and Consumer Protection Committee (IMCO) backed the European Commission's draft by 44 votes to two for the regulation, which would replace the 2009 Toy Safety Directive (TSD).

The law would introduce reforms to the management of toy safety in Europe. Among other measures, it would extend the generic risk assessment to include endocrine disruptors, establish a digital product passport (DPP) and introduce bans on bisphenols and PFAS in the products.

IMCO finalised the adoption of the law in November 2025, followed by its publication in the EU's Official Journal on December 12th. The revised TSR got into force January 1st 2026.

Rosin compounds classification proposals

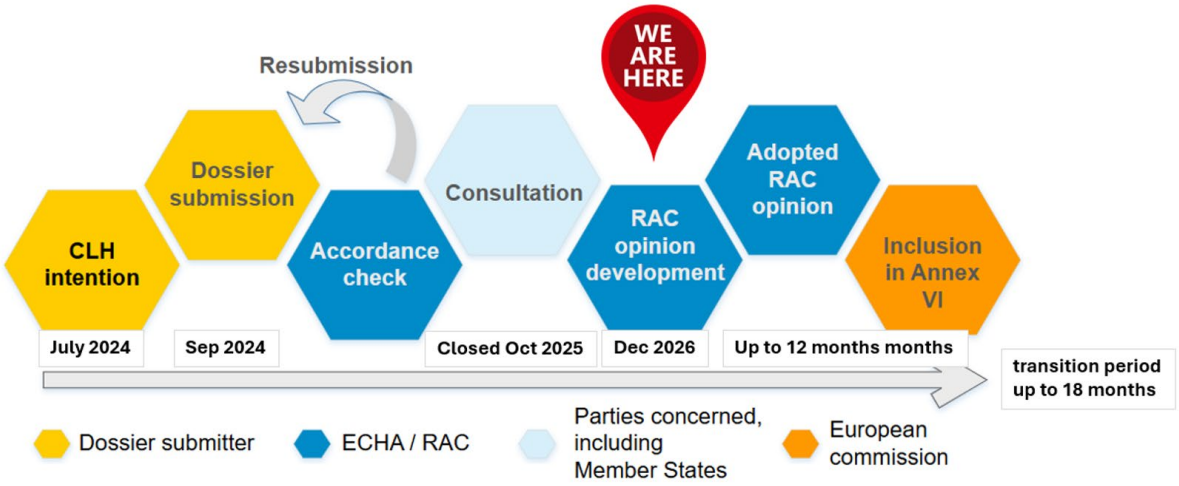
After the release of the Assessment of Regulatory Needs (ARN) report about various rosin compounds in 2023, member state Norway submitted in September 2024 a classification proposals for nine rosin compounds. While some of the compounds are already classified as skin sensitizer, a harmonized classification as reproductive toxicant 1B or 2 would come on top.

CAS / list No	Substance	Current classification	Proposed classification	H-phrase
8050-09-7	Rosin, colophony	Skin Sens. 1	Repro. Cat. 1B	H360Df
65997-05-9	Rosin, oligomers		Repro. Cat. 1B	H360Df
65997-06-0	Rosin, hydrogenated		Repro. Cat. 2	H360f
65997-04-8	Rosin, fumarated	Skin Sens. 1*	Repro. Cat. 2	H360f
8050-28-0	Rosin Maleated	Skin Sens. 1*	Repro. Cat. 1B	H360Df
94581-17-6	Resin acids and rosin acids, maleated, esters with pentaerythritol	Skin Sens. 1B*	Repro. Cat. 2	H360f
97489-11-7	Resin acids and rosin acids, fumarated, esters with glycerol	Skin Sens. 1*	Repro. Cat. 2	H360f
500-451-8	Fatty acids, tall oil, oligomeric reaction products with maleic anhydride and rosin, calcium magnesium and zinc salts	Skin Sens. 1*	Repro. Cat. 1B	H360Df

*self-classification

The public consultation closed end of October 2025, followed by the opinion development by the Risk Assessment Committee (RAC) that is expected to be completed by mid-2026, with the current Legal deadline for opinion adoption set for December 2026.

The H4R consortium, representing resin and rosin compounds under EU REACH, has conducted two mechanistic studies to determine the reversibility of fertility effects and the role of undernutrition caused by rosin. The studies conclude that that thee observed effects are secondary, non-adverse, and not intrinsic properties of rosin, but rather a consequence of maternal undernourishment. Both studies were submitted during the 2025 public consultation and will be available to the RAC for their evaluation. HARRPA (European based producers of Hydrocarbon Resins, Rosin Resins and Pine Chemicals), H4R Consortium and PCA (Pine Chemicals Association) jointly published a Q&A Document in December 2025.



EU Commission adopts 19.5% hike in REACH fees

The European Commission has adopted its revised REACH fees regulation, raising fees by 19.5% for large companies. The updated fees took effect from November 5th 2025.

In parallel a new requirement for SMEs was introduced to validate their company size to qualify for reduced rates. From 5 February 2027, SMEs intending to submit REACH registrations or authorisation applications must apply for company size validation at least two months in advance of their submission. Once it receives the relevant documentation, ECHA will have two months to verify the SME status.

ECHA recommends melamine for REACH authorization list

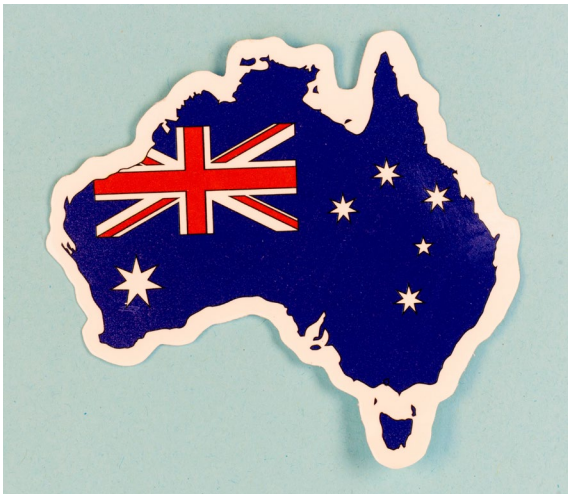
ECHA has proposed adding melamine to the REACH authorization list, following a court ruling that upheld its identification as an SVHC due to persistent, mobile and toxic (PMT) properties.

The Commission will now decide which substances to add finally to the list and what conditions apply. Once a chemical is on Annex XIV, companies cannot place it on the market after a set date without applying for permission for specific uses where no suitable alternatives exist.

Melamine has a wide range of uses, particularly via melamine-formaldehyde resins, which can be molded into tableware. The chemical is manufactured in and/or imported to the European Economic Area at between 100.000 and 1 million tons a year.

Global Regulations – Upcoming Changes

Australia's packaging industry launches project to push for policy reform



Australia's packaging industry is commissioning a project to demonstrate the need for a packaging reform in the country and the benefits of using domestic recycled plastic in packaging.

The Australian Council of Recycling (ACOR) and the Australian Packaging Covenant Organisation (APCO) are leading the project, along with a selection of recyclers, resource recovery companies and brand owners. The Advancing Plastics Recycling in Australia (APRA) Project aims to support government and industry decision-making, including on upcoming national packaging reform processes and investment frameworks aimed at reducing plastic waste and enhancing domestic recycling capability.

The project will commission an evidence-based analysis on how best to support and strengthen domestic recycling and manufacturing capability; create resilient markets; reduce reliance on virgin and cheap imported plastics; and support national efforts to manage plastic waste responsibly.

Ukraine proposes three-year extension to REACH registration deadlines

The Ukrainian government has proposed granting industry up to three additional years to register substances under its domestic REACH regulation, and extending deadlines under its CLP framework, to give businesses more time to prepare in a tough economic environment shaped by the ongoing war.

A draft resolution published by the Ministry of Economy, Environment and Agriculture (MEEA) on 22 October echoes recent deadline extensions to similar REACH regulations in the UK and Turkey, reflecting a broader regional trend toward easing regulatory burdens and boosting competitiveness. The ministry is now proposing the following registration deadlines for the country's Technical Regulation on the Safety of Chemical Products – so-called Ukraine REACH or UA REACH – which entered into force in January 2025 and mirrors the EU regulation.

	CMR 1A and 1B >1tpa very toxic to aquatic organisms > 100tpa	**substances > 1000 tpa**	**substances 100-1000 tpa**	**substances 1-100 tpa**
Original deadline	26 January 2026	1 October 2026	1 June 2028	1 March 2030
New deadline	1 October 2028	1 October 2029	1 June 2031	1 March 2033

The deadline for pre-registration, originally set for 26 January 2026, and for which full compositional details of substances are required in Ukraine, has been extended by one year. Additionally, products placed on the market before the regulation enters into force may now remain available for 18 months, rather than the previously agreed one-year period.

The ministry is also proposing to extend the notification deadline for the domestic CLP regime – UA-CLP – adopted last year, by six months to 16 May 2026.

The draft resolution extends the CLP compliance date to 1 July 2028 for substances introduced to the market before January 2027. And, substances that do not meet certain hazard classification and labelling criteria are now allowed to remain on the market for an extra year until 15 November 2027

French PFAS ban on consumer products enters into force

France's ban on PFAS took effect at the start of the year, prohibiting the manufacture, sale and distribution of cosmetics, ski wax, clothing, and footwear, as well as their waterproofing agents, that contain the persistent chemicals. The ban excludes protective clothing and footwear, such as those used by military personnel or firefighters.

From 2030, the restrictions will extend to all textiles containing PFAS, except for technical textiles used in industrial applications, which will be specified by decree, according to a government statement issued on 31 December. Products containing only trace amounts of PFAS will remain exempt, with residual concentration thresholds to be defined by decree.

France is not the first EU country to take national action on PFAS ahead of the proposed union-wide restriction. In 2023, Denmark banned PFAS in paper and cardboard food packaging, and will also ban the sale and import of consumer clothing, footwear and waterproofing products containing PFAS from July.

US withdrawal from UN organisations to have no impact on GHS implementation work

The UN Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) has said that the US decision to withdraw from a number of UN bodies will not affect its work on chemicals management, including support for the implementation of the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS).

The White House announced on 8 January that the US would withdraw from 66 international organisations, saying they "no longer serve American interests" and promote "ineffective or hostile agendas". UNITAR, which is among the affected entities, serves as the UN's training arm and supports countries on a range of issues, including chemicals and waste management. As part of this work, it has assisted countries such as Ecuador and El Salvador in implementing GHS. More than 100 countries have yet to implement the system.

A UNITAR official, told that the institute regrets the US decision but said the immediate funding impact is limited. One ongoing US-funded project will be brought to a close, the official said, though it is unrelated to UNITAR's chemicals and waste management programme. As a result, UNITAR does not expect any direct impact on its work on chemicals or its plans to continue supporting countries with GHS implementation, the official added.

Great Britain – classification of talc

In January 2026, the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) published its technical report on proposed mandatory classifications for talc under the Great Britain Classification, Labelling and Packaging (CLP) Regulation. The HSE technical report states that "The Agency does not consider the available data are sufficient to support classification for carcinogenicity.". Instead, the agency proposes a classification as STOT RE 1 H372 (lungs, inhalation).

These conclusions are therefore different from the opinion of the Risk Assessment Committee (Carc. 1B, STOT RE 1) and from the dossier submitters proposal either (Carc. 2, STOT RE 1). It should be noted that this mandatory classification and labelling (MCL) has not yet been agreed or adopted in Great Britain. The next step is the publication of the HSE Agency Opinion within the next 12 months. The opinion document summarises the MCL Technical Report as well as the assessment of the potential policy issues and impacts of the revised MCL proposal and forms the basis of the recommendation made to ministers.

Safe, Sustainable, and Vibrant - Unlock the Potential of Printing Direct Food Contact (DFC)

SunVisto AquaSafe Waterbased Ink for film, paper & board is a commitment to safety, sustainability, and superior quality.

Environmental consciousness and health safety are paramount. SunVisto AquaSafe helps brand owners and print converters reduce or eliminate single-use plastic packaging and plastic in fibre-based packaging, while maintaining safety and visual appeal.

Food safe ingredients: Sun Chemical has carried out an extensive regulatory review and risk assessment to ensure that all components of SunVisto AquaSafe, including special pigments, are carefully selected for their suitability for direct food contact and safe migration levels, and meet all relevant EU standards.

Learn more about SunVisto AquaGreen and SunVisto Inks at sunchemical.com/packaging_product_sunvisto/

SunChemical®

a member of the DIC group

DIC Color & Comfort

Experience. *Transformation.*

A partner who transforms with you.

Today's environment requires more than change. It demands transformation — and a partner who's willing to transform with you. Sun Chemical, a member of the DIC group, is a leading producer of packaging and graphic solutions, color and display technologies, functional products, electronic materials, and products for the automotive and healthcare industries. Together with DIC, Sun Chemical is continuously working to promote and develop sustainable solutions to exceed customer expectations and better the world around us. With combined annual sales of more than $8.5 billion and 22,000+ employees worldwide, the DIC Group companies support a diverse collection of global customers. As you move forward into a world of stiffer competition, faster turnarounds, more complex demands and sustainable products, count on Sun Chemical to be your partner.

Sun Chemical
35 Waterview Blvd #100 Parsippany, NJ 07054
United States
www.sunchemical.com/regulatory

SunChemical®
a member of the DIC group
Color & Comfort