



General Information on REACH

REACH (Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals) regulations came into force on 1st June 2007.

This requires manufacturers or importers of chemicals / substances to register their products with the agency set up for that purpose. Substances not registered will not be allowed to be sold in Europe.

A list of restricted substances of very high concern (SVHC) is reviewed and published on the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA) website, the most recent being 16th January 2020. This updated list now contains 205 listed substances.

As a manufacturer of products that use basic substances, defined as 'preparations' in the REACH regulations, GTS is not itself required to register our materials. In addition, polymers, such as those manufactured by GTS as reacted adhesives, are exempt from registration.

Our suppliers have the obligation to register substances. GTS has therefore contacted all of our suppliers to ensure that they are fully aware of their obligations under the REACH regulations and that we can assure ourselves of continuation of supply of substances to GTS.

We have determined:

- i) All suppliers are aware of the regulations.
- ii) Suppliers have registered their products where required

In addition we regularly review the candidate list of SVHC as published on the ECHA website to ensure that we and our suppliers continue to comply with the REACH directive. (<http://echa.europa.eu/candidate-list-table>)

GTS advises that it uses information provided by raw material suppliers to determine on-going compliance with the REACH directive. GTS does not analyse raw materials to ensure compliance.

We advise that one material in common use, namely thicker grades (> 50 microns) of DuPont's Kapton™ Polyimide film, contains the substance Di-Methyl Acetamide, CAS number 127-19-5, which is on the candidate list of SVHC as published by ECHA.

Alternative Polyimide films are available which do not contain that substance and GTS technical staff can advise.

I. R. Chitty

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