

REACH STATEMENT

Background

REACH is the EU regulation on chemicals and the safe use of products. It came into force on the 1st June 2007, and affects all Member States including the UK. The purpose of the regulations is to provide a high level of protection to human health and the environment through the Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and restriction of Chemicals.

REACH covers all substances; on their own, in preparations and in articles, and places the responsibility on industry to provide safety information and properly manage the risks arising from their use.

Portsmouth Aviation is not a manufacturer of chemicals, but is a user of them and as such is fully aware of its responsibilities under REACH with regards to our uses of chemicals and also, where relevant, the provision of safety data to our customers regarding these chemicals.

Substances of Very High Concern (SVHC)

A growing number of chemicals are being identified, by the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA), as having particularly hazardous properties - these are known as Substances of Very High Concern (SVHC). Replacements for these substances **must** be found by industry and as such timetables will be set for the restriction on the supply of them. Any ongoing use of these chemicals after the restrictions come into place must be authorised by ECHA and will be confined to very specific purposes only (e.g. critical aerospace components). This is likely to severely impact on the future availability of certain substances and processes throughout the EU.

Portsmouth Aviation, and its customers, is very likely to be affected by these restrictions, particularly with regard to our metal finishing services and some paint finishes. We are committed to actively work with our suppliers to identify suitable alternatives to replace SVHCs in our processes to ensure that we can continue to meet our customer's requirements. However, it is also important that information and data on the critical uses of these substances for certain applications (e.g. aerospace) is fed back up the supply chain, by customers and users, to the manufacturers to ensure that the substance is authorised for that specific use. **No authorisation = No supply.**

Article 33.1 of the REACH regulations also states that 'manufacturers and importers of articles are required to notify their customers of the presence of any SVHCs in their products exceeding 0.1% by weight'. In the UK an 'Article' is defined as the final finished product (e.g. the car), not the individual components (tyres, brakes, chassis, etc.). It is, therefore, unlikely that any article supplied by Portsmouth Aviation will exceed this 0.1% weight by weight limit, but will provide you with further information if this is the case.

In case of further questions regarding Portsmouth Aviation's compliance with the REACH regulations, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Further information on REACH is available at:

<http://echa.europa.eu/web/guest/regulations/reach>

<http://echa.europa.eu/candidate-list-table>

<http://www.hse.gov.uk/reach/>