

Diisocyanates restriction compliance for end users of adhesives and sealants

Are you an end user of polyurethane (PU) containing adhesives and sealants?

➡ We will guide you through the path to compliance.

On 4 August 2020, a new restriction on diisocyanates was adopted by the European authorities under REACH establishing training requirements prior to the use of PU products containing diisocyanates.



What are your obligations under the diisocyanates restriction?

As an end user of PU adhesives or sealants with a diisocyanate concentration $> 0.1\%$, you will have to make sure that your staff is trained and certified by 24 August 2023 on how to safely handle products containing diisocyanates. This will apply to all professional and industrial users of such products. The relevant PU products for which training is required can be identified via the sentence 'As from 24 August 2023 adequate training is required before industrial or professional use' on the label.

You will have to keep records of the certification to prove in case of an inspection that your staff has been trained. The training shall be renewed at least every five years.

AS OF 24 AUGUST 2023
ADEQUATE TRAINING IS REQUIRED
BEFORE INDUSTRIAL OR
PROFESSIONAL USE



✓ Who is developing the training content and how?

FEICA, in coordination with ISOPA and ALIPA, the diisocyanate manufacturers' industry associations, is preparing training material for use by its members and by adhesive or sealant users. We expect it to become available by the middle of 2022 in all official EU languages.

✓ What will the training be about?

In line with the requirements laid down in the restriction, the training content will vary depending on the application's risk. Participants in the training will be guided to selected training modules which are needed for their specific uses. If you have successfully completed the FEICA training, you have met the necessary requirements to continue using the products safely.

✓ How will the training be provided?

FEICA is planning to make the training available in the form of an e-learning for easy usability. Additionally, the material will become available to organizations who want to provide their own classroom training.



How will you become aware of the availability of the training?

The training is currently under development. The FEICA training information website will be continuously updated to provide the most recent status. As soon as the training materials are available, information on how to access them will appear on the FEICA training information website.



Member States can add additional requirements that they feel are necessary, also beyond what has been defined in the REACH restriction. Therefore, you should also check for national information.






How will the training be provided?

FEICA is planning to make the training available in the form of e-learning for ease of use. Additionally, the material will become available to organizations who want to provide their own classroom training.



Note: adhesive suppliers have no legal obligation to provide classroom training. E-learning is the preferred option. However, if local authorities deem e-learning to be inadmissible, the suppliers and their associations will support customers to find qualified trainers offering classroom training.

Whom should I contact if I have questions?

-  Your supplier will help you with any product-related questions.
-  If you want to learn more about 'A safe future for polyurethane products' See: <https://www.feica.eu/information-center/latest-news/a-safe-future-for-polyurethane-products>
-  If you would like to learn more about the status of training developments or other related general topics, please contact FEICA at info@feica.eu or check out www.feica.eu/information-center/feica-papers/



A safe future for polyurethane products

A diverse product
Polyurethane (PU) adhesives and sealants are versatile, innovative and safe. They are used in a wide variety of applications in construction, packaging, automotive, furniture, engineering, marine, transportation, and many more.
PU products are made by reacting **diisocyanates** and **polyols**.

A new regulation has been adopted
REACH is a regulation of the European Union, adopted to improve the protection of human health and the environment from risks that can be posed by chemicals, while enhancing the competitiveness of the EU chemicals industry. On 4 August 2020, a new restriction on **diisocyanates** was published in the Official Journal of the European Union.
It targets respiratory and dermal sensitisation potentially caused by diisocyanates and requires training prior to use.

YOUR STAFF WILL NEED TO BE TRAINED TO KNOW HOW TO APPLY PU PRODUCTS SAFELY

What does the restriction mean, how is the training developing and what is the timeline for implementation?
Your staff will need to be trained and certified by 24 August 2023 in how to handle products containing diisocyanates safely. This will apply for all professional and industrial users of products with a total monomeric diisocyanate concentration of > 0.1%. Such products will have to carry a phrase on the label from 24 February 2022, indicating the requirement of training. FEICA, in coordination with ISOPI and AUPA, the diisocyanate manufacturers' industry associations, is preparing training material for use by its members and by adhesive or sealant users. We expect it to become available as of February 2022, early enough for all users of PU products to be trained and certified by 24 August 2023.

FEICA is planning to make online training available for easy usability. Additionally, the material will become available for individual classroom training. Holding a certification to prove attendance to the training, including a final exam, will be mandatory for all professional and industrial users applying the product. The adopted legal text requires the training to be provided by an expert in occupational health & safety. Employers must keep records of the training provided to their employees.
Additional requirements may be added by Member States beyond what has been defined in the REACH restriction. Further clarification is needed on how training will be implemented in each member state.

Labelling requirements on pack → **All users trained and certified**
24 February 2022 → 24 August 2023

"The industry is strongly committed to the safe use of diisocyanates and safety in the workplace."

As of 24 August 2023 adequate training is required before industrial or professional use.

Glossary

EU: European Union
 PU: polyurethane
 REACH: Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals.
 The key regulation of the EU for chemicals manufactured in or imported into the EU

