

BASA Bulletin

INFORMED COMMENT FROM THE BRITISH ADHESIVES & SEALANTS ASSOCIATION

BASA AWARDS NIGHT 2024 – FULL DETAILS COMING SOON!

Get ready to mark your calendars and shine your shoes because BASA (British Adhesives and Sealants Association) is rolling out the red carpet for its inaugural Awards Night! It's time to celebrate the movers, shakers, and innovators in the adhesives and sealants sector like never before.

Picture this: a glittering evening where industry titans and rising stars gather under one roof to honour excellence and achievement. From breakthrough innovations to sustainable practices, we're celebrating the outstanding contributions of individuals and companies that drive our industry forward.

But wait, there's more! This isn't just any awards ceremony – it's a chance to network with the best and brightest minds in the business. Rub elbows with industry leaders, forge new connections, and gain insights that could take your career or business to the next level.

And here's the best part: YOU can be a part of it all. Whether you're a seasoned veteran or a fresh face in the industry, there's an award category just waiting for your name. Don't be shy – showcase your hard work, dedication, and ingenuity. Who knows? You could be the next big winner, taking home the coveted trophy and earning recognition from your peers.

But even if you're not ready to take the spotlight, there's still a way to get involved. Sponsor an award and show your support for the outstanding achievers in our community. It's a chance to raise your profile, align your brand with excellence, and give back to the industry that has given us so much.

So, what are you waiting for? Get ready to book your tickets, dust off your tuxedo or gown, and make history at BASA's first-ever Awards Night.

Enter an award, sponsor a category, and join us for an unforgettable evening of celebration, inspiration, and innovation. See you on the red carpet!



Safeguarding Biodiversity

Read about how biodiversity plays a pivotal role in the chemicals sector and how the loss of biodiversity could have profound implications for the supply of crucial products.

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Regulatory Overview

BASA Consultant Caroline Raine gives you an update on what's coming in 2024 and beyond in relation to EU/UK REACH, Poison Centres, EU CLP and GB MCL.

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Corrosive Chemical Attacks

Head to page 11 to read this article on corrosive chemicals to understand why everyone should be aware of the legislation and useful links on the BASA website.

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CEO Welcome



Dear BASA Members,

As we reflect on the past 12 months, I am grateful for your unwavering support and dedication to our association. Your commitment has been instrumental in driving BASA forward, even amidst unprecedented challenges over the last three years.

I am pleased to announce that our relationship with FEICA (the European Adhesive and Sealant Association) has never been stronger. Together, we have navigated the complexities of the post-Brexit regulatory landscape, ensuring that our members remain informed and prepared for whatever the future in Europe may hold. BASA continues to dedicate resources on the UK (in respect of Great Britain) regulations as these diverge from the EU. Meeting the challenges of dual regulation can be a nightmare and myself and the regulatory team are on hand to help you all. This is an important membership benefit, so please take advantage of it.

Looking ahead, I am thrilled to announce this year's annual Sports Day is scheduled for the 19th of June. I encourage all our golfers and shooters to mark their calendars and book their places for their preferred events. And don't forget to stay for the presentation dinner, where we will celebrate the spirit of camaraderie and competition. We will be sending out some direct links to book your places after the AGM held on 7th March. I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to our sports day sponsors IMCD, Newport Industries, and Omya for their continued support of this cherished event. Your contributions make it possible for us to come together as a community and celebrate our shared passion for the industry.

But that's not all! This year, we are excited to introduce a new addition to the BASA calendar: our inaugural Awards Dinner, scheduled for November. Plans are well

underway, and I am confident that it will be an evening to remember. For further information, please turn to page 3, where you will find details on how to get involved. We will be launching the awards process at our upcoming AGM, so if you missed this important occasion take a look at the dedicated website for the awards night. Let us celebrate the achievements of our members and inspire future excellence within our industry.

Once again, thank you for your continued support and dedication. Here's to a bright future ahead for BASA and its members.

Lorna Williams
CEO, BASA

BASA Mission

The aim of BASA is to be the umbrella organisation for adhesive and sealant manufacturers in the UK and Ireland. BASA will support its members by representing and promoting the industry, offering guidance on technical and compliance issues, providing networking opportunities for members and providing members with support services.

Technical/Regulatory Compliance

- To inform members about the impact of UK and European legislation
- To offer industry positions about regulatory proposals
- To provide advice about information sources
- To deliver training about key issues to members

Promoting the Industry

- To positively project the social and economic benefits of the adhesives and sealants industry to government, consumers and industry

- To positively project the sustainability of our products
- To foster academic/industry links (careers, research)
- To promote the use of adhesives/sealants and the choice of member companies
- To offer guidance to end users in the correct selection and use of adhesives and sealants
- To seek opportunities to promote the industry to schools and further education including vocational training organisations, with a view to encouraging new entrants

Networking opportunities for members

- To provide business, technical, social networking opportunities for members
- To provide a platform for members to meet/discuss issues of industry concern
- To provide opportunities for members to discuss toll manufacturing

UK Representation

- Interact with other business organisations, trade associations, government and NGOs to represent industry views according to Council guidelines

European Representation

- To maintain our leading role within FEICA, actively participating in FEICA committees and contributing to setting its agenda to ensure members' best interests are represented, according to Council guidelines
- To inform members about European technical/regulatory issues

Support Services: Providing Members With:

- Training seminars for members
- Affinity partners programme



Safeguarding Biodiversity: The Crucial Link with the Chemicals Industry

In the dynamic landscape of modern industry, the relationship between biodiversity and the chemicals sector is often overlooked. However, the intricate connection between the two is undeniable. From the manufacture of formulated chemical products to the maintenance of sustainable supply chains, biodiversity plays a pivotal role. Understanding this relationship is essential, as the loss of biodiversity could have profound implications for the supply of crucial products.

The Intersection of Biodiversity and Chemicals Manufacturing

The chemicals industry encompasses a vast array of products, from adhesives and sealants to pharmaceuticals and fertilizers. Many of these products rely on natural resources obtained from diverse ecosystems. For instance, organic compounds extracted from plants serve as raw materials for various chemical formulations. Moreover, biodiversity provides essential ecosystem services such as pollination, water purification, and soil fertility, which are vital for agricultural and industrial processes.

Formulated Chemical Products and Biodiversity

Formulated chemical products, including adhesives and sealants, are engineered to meet specific performance criteria. These products often contain a combination of synthetic and natural ingredients. The loss of biodiversity can disrupt the availability of natural resources used in these formulations. For example, if a plant species crucial for producing a specific chemical compound becomes extinct or endangered due to habitat destruction, it

could lead to supply chain disruptions and increased production costs.

Supply Chain Vulnerabilities

Biodiversity loss can create vulnerabilities in the supply chains of formulated chemical products. As ecosystems degrade and species decline, the availability of raw materials becomes uncertain. This uncertainty can manifest as price volatility, regulatory hurdles, and logistical challenges. For instance, restrictions on the extraction of certain natural resources due to conservation efforts can limit the availability of key ingredients, leading to production delays and shortages.

Sustainable Practices and Biodiversity Conservation

To mitigate the risks associated with biodiversity loss, the chemicals industry must embrace sustainable practices. This includes adopting environmentally responsible sourcing strategies, investing in biodiversity conservation initiatives, and exploring alternative raw materials. By prioritizing biodiversity conservation, companies can safeguard their supply chains while contributing to the preservation of ecosystems and species diversity.

Collaboration and Innovation

Addressing the challenges posed by biodiversity loss requires collaboration and innovation across the chemicals industry and beyond. Collaborative efforts between manufacturers,

government agencies, non-governmental organizations, and academic institutions can lead to the development of sustainable solutions. This may involve leveraging technology to optimize resource use, promoting circular economy principles, and supporting reforestation and habitat restoration projects.

Conclusion

The relationship between biodiversity and the chemicals industry is multifaceted and indispensable. From sourcing raw materials to ensuring product availability, biodiversity underpins the resilience of supply chains for formulated chemical products. As global biodiversity continues to decline at an alarming rate, it is imperative for the chemicals industry to prioritize sustainability and biodiversity conservation. By doing so, stakeholders can not only safeguard their business interests but also contribute to the preservation of the planet's natural heritage for future generations.



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Save The Date: BASA SPORTS DAY
Hawkstone Park Hotel & West Midlands Shooting Ground, Shropshire

**JUNE 19
2024**

A quick guide to disclosing your climate impact

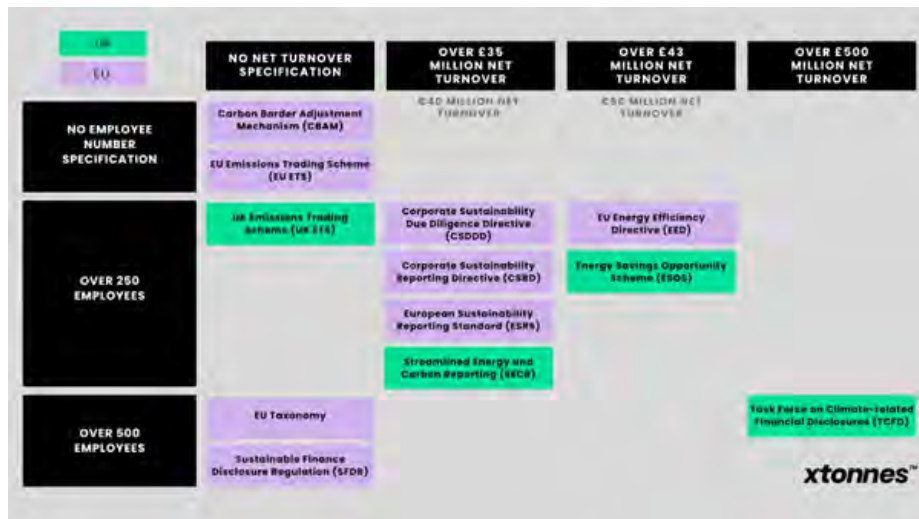
In an era where environmental consciousness is no longer a choice but a responsibility, businesses are facing increasing pressure to be transparent about their carbon footprint. As governments worldwide tighten regulations and consumers demand eco-friendly practices, the need for accurate and comprehensive carbon calculations has never been more critical.

The question echoing through boardrooms and executive suites is: Does your business have its carbon calculations ready to report?

Why start carbon reporting now?

Carbon reporting has evolved from a mere trend to a regulatory necessity. Governments and regulatory bodies globally are instituting stringent requirements for manufacturing businesses to disclose their carbon emissions and sustainability efforts.

Key regulatory drivers



Several major regulatory frameworks are shaping the landscape of carbon reporting, urging product-led businesses to take action:

1. UK’s Streamlined Energy and Carbon Reporting (SECR):

SECR applies to quoted companies, large unquoted companies, large limited liability partnerships (LLPs), and academy trusts.

SECR requires companies to collect and report global Scope 1 and 2 GHG emissions. Scope 3 emissions reporting is voluntary, but recommended. In addition, companies must disclose at least one emissions intensity ratio - emissions

factors that compare emissions data with an appropriate business metric or financial indicator, such as CO2e per employee or million £ in turnover.

2. EU’s Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive (CSRD)

The new CSRD law came into force in January 2024. It requires all large companies and listed SMEs that operate in the EU to report on their climate impact – and begin publishing regular reports in 2025 for the financial year 2024.

The CSRD establishes a baseline of reporting for all companies. That includes the full climate requirements, which go further than the TCFD framework, which they are based on. They include measurement and disclosure of a company’s full Scope 1, 2 and 3 emissions, an assessment of climate risks, and policies related to climate change mitigation and adoption.

3. UK’s Sustainability Disclosure Requirements (SDR)

In August 2023, the UK Government introduced the UK Sustainability Disclosure Standards (SDS) within the SDR framework. The SDS will form the basis of any future requirements in UK legislation or regulation for companies to report on risks and opportunities relating to sustainability matters, including risks and opportunities arising from climate change.

UK SDS will be based on the IFRS Sustainability Disclosure Standards issued by the International Sustainability Standards Board (ISSB). By using the IFRS Sustainability

Disclosure Standards as a baseline, the aim is that the information companies disclose under UK SDS will be globally comparable and decision-useful for investors.

4. EU’s Empowering Consumers for the Green Transition (ECGT)

In January 2024, the European Parliament gave its final greenlight to the new Directive on ECGT. The new law aims to curtail a series of unfair company tactics that prevents consumers from making sustainable choices. The text, agreed upon in negotiations among EU institutions and member states, is now ready to be transposed into national legislation across the EU.

Once enforced, the Directive will ban a series of greenwashing tactics, including climate neutral claims, which are among the most misleading green claims on the market. In addition, producers will only be allowed to mark a product as “eco” or “green” when the entire product is truly greener than conventional ones and certified by a trustworthy scheme such as the EU Ecolabel.

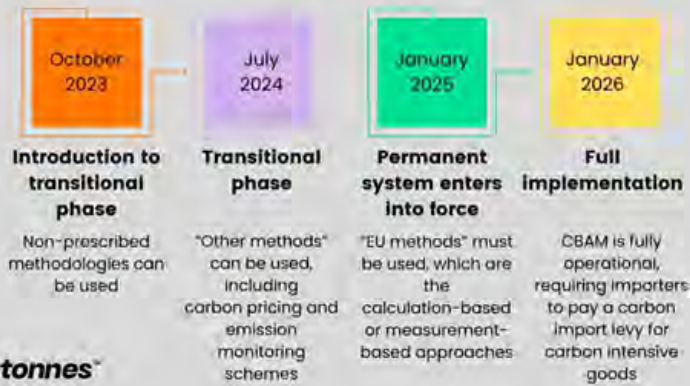
More rigorous oversight will also extend to sustainability labels, which will need to be backed up by third-party verification to ensure their credibility and reliability.

5. UK’s and EU’s Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM)

The UK government announced that it will introduce a CBAM by 2027. It will establish a carbon tax on imported goods targeted at a series of key emissions-intensive industries, with the purpose of equalising the carbon price paid by UK producers with those outside the UK and avoiding “carbon leakage” or the shifting of production of carbon-intensive goods to jurisdictions with less stringent emissions reduction policies. Further detail, including the precise list of products in scope, will be the subject of consultation in 2024.

The EU recently adopted a CBAM to equalise carbon prices on imports with its own ETS system. While carbon pricing under EU CBAM will commence on January 1, 2026, a transitional phase is set until the end of 2025, during which only reporting obligations will be enforced.

EU CBAM reporting timeline



EU CBAM emissions data requirements

Direct embedded emissions

- Type of determination
- Type of applicable reporting methodology
- Specific (direct) embedded emissions
- Type of measurement unit
- Type of determination (electricity)
- Source of emission factor (for electricity)
- Emission factor
- Source of emission factor
- Electricity imported
- Total emissions of electricity imported
- Justification
- Fulfilment of conditionality

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Indirect embedded emissions

- Type of determination
- Source of emission factor
- Emission factor
- Specific (indirect) embedded emissions
- Type of measurement unit
- Electricity consumed
- Source of electricity
- Other source indication
- Source of emission factor value

Installation emissions

- Installation total emissions
- Installation direct emissions
- Installation indirect emissions
- Type of measurement unit for emissions

3. Invest in data quality: Strengthen data collection processes to ensure the accuracy of your environmental data. Consider implementing software solutions that streamline data management. Make sure to assign responsibility and accountability for each data collection area.

4. Stay flexible: Prepare for changes in regulations and reporting standards. Maintain a flexible reporting infrastructure that can adapt to evolving requirements. Utilising a carbon accounting software solution can mitigate the risk of being static when it comes to calculations and processes. Be strategic, forward thinking and understand that carbon management is a journey.

5. Communicate transparently: Embrace transparency in your reporting. Clearly communicate your emissions, reduction initiatives, and sustainable practices to build trust with stakeholders – both internally and externally. Invest in employee upskilling to ensure your workforce understands the importance of carbon data collection and reporting.

Reach out to the xtonnes expert team to find out more about support for your business with its carbon reporting.

As organisations embark on the crucial journey of disclosing their carbon footprint, it's important to remember that beyond regulatory mandates, transparent carbon reporting emerges as an indispensable step toward fostering a sustainable business. Embracing this responsibility not only ensures compliance but positions businesses as trailblazers in an era where sustainability is the cornerstone of corporate resilience and success.

What steps can you take to ensure your business is ready for carbon reporting?

1. Understand applicable regulations:

Stay informed about the specific reporting requirements relevant to your industry and location. Subscribe to informative news outlets and set Google alerts for the climate legislation your business could be subject to in the future.

2. Conduct a carbon audit: Evaluate your carbon emissions across Scopes 1, 2, and 3. It's important to be ready for disclosure requirements when they come and to not fall behind. Investing in specialised tools and professional help to conduct assess your carbon footprint could save time and resources, whilst providing confidence in your results.

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xtonnesTM



SURFEX
Surface, Paint & Coatings Technology

4-5 June
2024
Coventry Building Society Arena

Regulatory Overview – what’s coming in 2024 and beyond?

2024 promises to be another full-on year with regards to chemical compliance. Divergence from EU is becoming more prevalent, and this is set to continue and rapidly increase in 2024 and beyond. So, let’s look at what is coming in 2024 with regards to REACH, both UK and EU REACH and CLP, both GB and EU CLP.

Let’s start with REACH.

EU REACH

The EU REACH revision is on hold now, due to European Parliamentary Elections, and whilst this pause is welcome, it brings some uncertainties and there are a few topics that may impact members: the concept of the Mixture Assessment Factor (MAF), polymers registrations under REACH and the Generic Risk Approach. We are working closely with FEICA on these topics and will continue to feed our concerns into ECHA. The REACH fees model is also likely to be reviewed.

Otherwise, it is business as usual with REACH, dossiers must be kept up to date and companies must ensure that they monitor their substances with all the relevant lists. Note that the candidate list was just recently updated with a further five substances in January 2024.

BASA’s Watch List can help you monitor your substances, so be sure to check that out if you haven’t already!

UK REACH

The REACH (Amendment) Regulations 2023, SI 2023 No. 722 were published in 2023 which formally extends the UK REACH deadlines by amending Article 127. The deadlines are now confirmed as;

Deadline (last date for dossier submission)	Tonnage	Hazardous property
27 October 2026	1000 tonnes or more per year	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Carcinogenic, mutagenic or toxic for reproduction (CMRs)- 1 tonne or more per year Very toxic to aquatic organisms (acute or chronic)- 100 tonnes or more per year Candidate list substances (as at 31 December 2020)
27 October 2028	100 tonnes or more per year	Candidate list substances (as at 27 October 2023)
27 October 2030	1 tonne or more per year	

We do not yet know what REACH registration will consist of, but a consultation, along with more information is expected in quarter 1 of 2024 – i.e. soon!

Again, we will let members know when it is released and will give you some guidance on what it means, and how to respond.

In the meantime, if you have not yet submitted your Downstream User Import Notifications (DUINs) please do them as soon as possible, They protect your business and allow you to benefit from the transitional registration dates.

EU Poison centres

Those of you that did your notifications under the ‘existing’ member states requirements have until the 1st January 2025 to make your Annex VIII harmonised poison centre notifications.



EU CLP

The 21st Adaptation to Technical Progress (ATP) to the Regulation on the classification, labelling and packaging of substances and mixtures (CLP) has been published.

Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2024/197 of 19 October 2023 amending Regulation (EC) No 1272/2008 as regards the harmonised classification and labelling of certain substances.

This Regulation entered into force on the 25th January 2024 and it applies from 1 September 2025. The full text of the ATP can be found here:

https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg_del/2024/197/oj

Note that 1,2-Benzisothiazol-3(2H)-one (BIT), Dibutyltin maleate; 2,2-dibutyl-(1,3,2-dioxastannepin-4,7-dione) and Dibutyltin oxide are all impacted.

The 22nd Adaptation to Technical Progress (ATP) to the CLP Regulation, Regulation (EC) No. 1272/2008 has been notified to the World Trade Organisation, Technical Barriers to Trade (WTO-TBT) Committee. The 22nd ATP introduces changes to Table 3 of Part 3, Annex VI to the CLP Regulation, the list of harmonised classification and labelling entries. The update includes amending 42 substances or substance groups and by deleting one entry.

It closes for comment on the 15th March 2024 and can be found here :

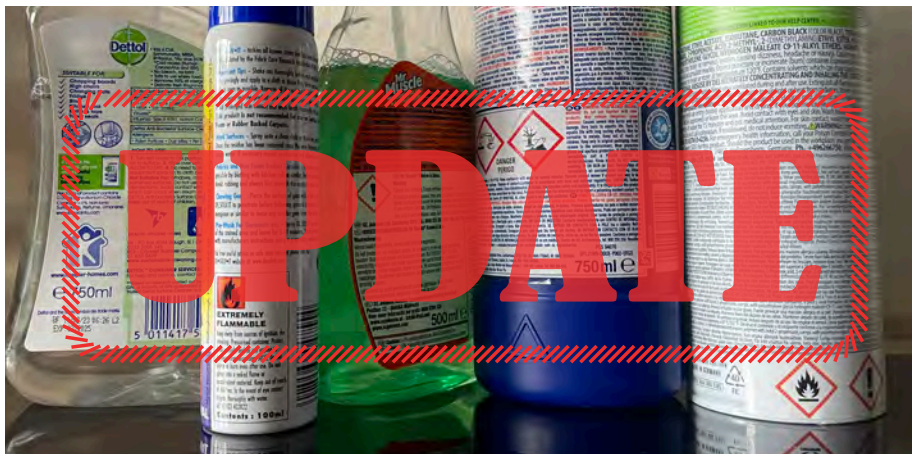
<https://eping.wto.org/en/Search/Index?viewData=%20G/TBT/N/EU/1042>
Adoption is expected in quarter 2 of 2024.

Work is now ongoing on the 23rd and 24th ATPs.

There is also a revision to EU CLP that is imminent. The draft has been agreed and we now wait for it to be formally published. (So, it is subject to revision). It includes changes to;

- More than One Constituent Substances' (MOCS)
- The Grouping Approach
- Notification rules
- Rules for updating labels
- Rules on refill sales
- Digital labelling

And it will have new font sizes for EU CLP labels;



Capacity of the package	Dimensions of the label (in millimetres) for the information required by Article17	Dimensions of each pictogram (in millimetres)	Minimum font-size (x-height in millimetres)
≤ 0,5 L	If possible, at least 52x74	Not smaller than 10x10 If possible, at least 16x16	1.2
≤ 3 L			1.4
≤ 50 L	At least 74x105	At least 23x23	1.8
≤ 500 L	At least 105x148	At least 32x32	2.0
> 500 L	At least 148x210	At least 46x46	2.0

In addition;

- Line spacing: the distance between two lines shall be equal or above 120 % of the font size
- Contrast: text must be black on white background
- Typeface: single font, easily legible, without serifs
- Letter spacing: appropriate to be legible

We will let you know once these are formally agreed, and the regulations published.

GB MCL

And finally, GB MCL.

The Great Britain Mandatory Classification list (GB MCL) has been updated with new and revised GB MCLs for 98 substances. The entry into force date was the 20th October 2023 and the compliance date is the 20th April 2025.

The GB Mandatory classification and labelling list can be found at: www.hse.gov.uk/chemical-classification/assets/docs/mcl-list.xlsx

The HSE GB CLP publication table can be

found here www.hse.gov.uk/chemical-classification/assets/docs/publication-template.xlsx

A second update is imminent. The notification sent to the World Trade Organisation contained 26 substances, with proposed adoption in Q1 2024 and mandatory entry into force Q3 2025. More information, including a list of the 26 substances and their proposed classifications can be found here: <https://eping.wto.org/en/Search/Index?viewData=%20G/TBT/N/GBR/67>

This means that we currently have 13 substances which have a classification in GB that is different to the EU classification.

As we see the EU publish more ATPs and as the HSE updates the GB MCL this is only going to increase.

Please remember that we have a substance watch list to help you review and monitor your substances and the weekly drop-in clinics are open to all members. If you have any questions please feel free to get in touch.

Article written by Caroline Raine

UK Construction Week LONDON

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH **BASA**

LONDON'S BIGGEST CONSTRUCTION EVENT
7 - 9 MAY | EXCEL

REGISTER FREE



CHEM Trust

Protecting humans and wildlife from harmful chemicals

Construction Products Association News



The CPA has published new guidance: 'Golden Thread - How to Provide Information under the Building Safety Act 2022 and The Building (Higher-Risk Building Procedures) (England) Regulations 2023'.

Under the new "gateway" approach to ensure that building safety is considered at each stage of a building's design and construction, a "Golden Thread" of information needs to be compiled. The "Golden Thread" provides an audit trail throughout the life of a building. This Guidance explores what actions are needed from construction product manufacturers to provide information under this new approach.

The guidance document is available here:

<https://www.constructionproducts.org.uk/publications/technical-and-regulatory/cpa-guidance-golden-thread-how-to-provide-information/>



ChemTrust - Continued Divergence of UK and EU on SVHCs

Chemtrust have stated that in the four years since Brexit, the EU has added 31 new chemicals to its substances of very high concern (SVHC) watchlist while the UK has added zero. The latest update to the EU's SVHC list added a further 5 more substances, but UK ministers have said not to expect any new additions to their version until 2025 at the earliest.

Inclusion on the SVHC list requires companies to provide information to consumers about a substance's safety. It also sends a signal that industry needs to start looking for alternatives ahead of a possible ban.

Chloe Alexander, senior campaigner at the charity CHEM Trust, said "We are increasingly seeing the UK's post-Brexit regulation of chemicals standing still as the EU introduces new protections from harmful chemicals," adding that "people and the environment in Britain will have greater exposure to harmful chemicals than in the EU and a second-rate system for regulating chemicals."

A spokesperson for Defra, meanwhile commented "There is no reduction in our high levels of chemical protection — with UK regulations retaining both the fundamental approach and key principles of the EU regulation.

"By assessing the risks of each substance, we will ensure that we have a clear rationale for which substances are added to the UK REACH Candidate List, ensuring we better protect human health and the environment.

"As part of a wide program of work, we are currently assessing four possible substances to be added to our candidate list. UK REACH is not the only tool by which we can take action on substances, with risks being addressed through a range of robust regulations."

BASA Editorial comment:

Manufacturers of adhesives and sealants regularly reformulate products to remove substances of concern and will always try to formulate the safest possible products to meet the functional and performance requirements.

The reality is that manufacturers in the UK are not operating in a bubble, and many manufacturers are part of a global market and take stock of all available information before placing product on the market. Implying that the post Brexit reality is that there is a greater exposure to harmful chemicals is not one that we recognise in our sector, and we would agree that a sensible approach is to assess the actual risks and exposure to any chemical substance.

Divergence is problematical for formulators of chemical products, and creates costs, but there is no evidence that this divergence is leading to greater exposure to harmful chemicals.



BASA Working Group round up

The core of the activities within BASA, on behalf of our industry, are undertaken through our working groups. Perhaps not surprisingly, in this post EU Exit era, where we have to stay abreast of not only the developments in the UK but also the EU as well as worldwide, the Chemical Legislation Working Group (formerly known as the Health & Safety Working Group) and the Environment and Sustainability Working Group have had the heaviest workloads and consequently the biggest outputs in terms of representational activities, guidance documents and position papers, all of which can be found on the BASA website.

The Chemical Legislation Working Group have issued multiple guidance documents covering subjects including EU and UK REACH, EU and UK CLP, and Poisons Centres, as well as advising on the growing divergence between EU and UK chemicals legislation.

The Environment and Sustainability Working Group have also been busy following topics including carbon accounting and the approaches to achieving the governments 'net zero' target, the developing extended producer

responsibility legislation, with the divergent approaches around Europe to that of the UK. Plus, the environmental impact of microplastics and plastic pellet losses and the mass balance approach to achieving sustainable feedstocks. A guide to 'green' claims has also been reviewed.



Whilst the above two working groups have been following the regulatory scene on behalf of the membership the Building Adhesives and Construction Chemicals Working Group and the Sealants Working Group have been involved in the standardisation work of those product groups and the developments of the EU and UK Construction Products Regulations, where there remains concern surrounding notified or approved body testing capacity, in relation to CE and UKCA marking, all of which could be resolved by a mutual recognition agreement.



The principle focus of the Packaging Adhesives Working Group is around food contact materials, such as mineral oils. There is no specific legislation in UK or EU concerning adhesive materials in contact with foods and so best practice is guided by the regulations concerning plastics and inks in food contact applications. There are also moves at EU level to create a harmonised one stop data base for all chemical substance hazard data.

The work of all the Working Groups is coordinated and guided by the Technical Steering Committee. To facilitate access to information for the members 'Issues Maps' that address all of the aforementioned subjects and a collation of the 'Active UK & EU Consultations and Impact Assessments' have been created on the website and are recommended as the first place to begin any searches.

Finally, the weekly drop-in clinics are open to all members and cover a wide variety of topics. They are all recorded and available for reference at your convenience on the BASA website.

Article written by Jim Palmer

 **FEICA® 2024**

Noordwijkerhout, the Netherlands

FEICA European Adhesive & Sealant Conference and EXPO 2024

11-13 September 2024

NH Noordwijk Conference Centre Leeuwenhorst

SAVE THE DATE



UKCA Marking of Construction Products – no news is not good news!

The government announced at the end of 2022 that the deadline for ending recognition of the CE mark and moving to the UK alternative has been extended to 30 June 2025. Another announcement followed in 2023 from the Department of Business and Trade outlining the government's intention to extend recognition of the CE mark indefinitely for the 18 product sectors they look after, but this announcement did not include construction products.

At the end of 2022 we saw a U-turn on simplification measures that had been adopted by product manufacturers only six months earlier to allow the use of historical test reports from an EU notified body to issue your Declaration of Performance (DoP). Where some simply missed the exemption around construction products, others believed or assumed for policy reasons that the indefinite extension to CE marking recognition would inevitably encompass construction products given sufficient time. Chaos resulted!

Subsequent announcements in January 2023 have seen new product groups (vacuum cleaners, mobile phones, toys, and demolition explosives) able to rely "indefinitely" on European safety marks to be sold in Britain. But again, disappointingly, construction products remain in a list with medical devices, marine equipment, rail products, cableways, transportable pressure equipment and unmanned aircraft systems having to meet separate rules.

Discussions continued with UK Government, via the Construction Products Association and Construction Leadership Council, where I represent BASA, but with no formal announcement

over the last 12 months, I have no confidence that the situation will change for construction products any time soon.

As we move ever towards June 2025, we once more find ourselves in a position where to rely on a reversal of this policy remains a business risk. Of course, with the Building Safety Act, we are waiting for the secondary legislation that was promised, and we will then see whether the, now withdrawn, 2020 UK SI amending the existing regulation is further amended, or scrapped altogether in favour of a completely different proposal.

For those who deal in products not covered by a designated/harmonised standard, the issuing of a UK technical assessment remains a voluntary process, however this relies on the use of a European Assessment Document, and this process is still not completely clear if double testing is to be avoided.

In the absence of mutual recognition between UK approved bodies and European notified bodies it remains the case that there is no risk-free path forward in conformity assessments other than a complete duplication of testing (for AVCP3 characteristics) unless the manufacturer is exclusively pursuing trade in only one of these jurisdictions. New products are slightly easier to navigate, as an EUNB and a UKAB can work together to minimise duplication of the actual tests, however the administration required to assess conformity to the standards carries an additional cost.

We have some guidance documents available on the BASA members-only area of the website to summarise some of these aspects. Refer to the UKCA Marking of Construction products Issues Map in the first instance: www.basa.uk.com/WorkingGroups/ArticleDetails?articleId=2059

Written by Lorna Williams



Independent Review of Building Regulations and Fire Safety

This review, led by Dame Judith Hackitt, was a pivotal moment in the UK's approach to building safety following the tragic Grenfell Tower fire. The report highlighted systemic failures in building regulations, construction practices, and oversight mechanisms, ultimately calling for a holistic reform of the regulatory framework governing building safety.

The Building Safety Act, which encompasses the provisions of the Building Safety Bill, seeks to address the key recommendations including:

- Creating a more robust regulatory framework: The Act aims to establish clearer roles and responsibilities for those involved in the design, construction, and management of buildings, ensuring greater accountability for building safety.
- Improving building safety standards: The Act introduces more stringent requirements for the design, construction, and maintenance of high-risk buildings, including residential high-rise buildings.
- Enhancing oversight and enforcement: The Act empowers the new Building Safety Regulator to oversee compliance with building safety regulations, investigate incidents, and take enforcement action against those responsible for breaches.
- Strengthening resident engagement and rights: The Act aims to give residents a stronger voice in the management of their buildings and ensure they have access to essential safety information.

A DLUHC-commissioned independent review of the construction products testing regime by Paul Morrell OBE and Anneliese Day KCBASA set out recommendations for industry and government alike to improve and strengthen the testing regime for construction products in April 2023. BASA have been inputting into the sector responses to the points raised in the review.



Corrosive Chemical Attacks – why you need to understand the legislation?



After the recent distressing corrosive substance attack in Clapham, it is probably useful to look at corrosive substance attacks, what they are, how often they occur and the relevant legislation. This violent use of throwing acid or alkali on to someone's body with the intention to harm or kill is what we mean by a corrosive substance attack and acids and alkaline-based substances are available from retailers, in store and online.

Strong household cleaners contain strong acids and alkalis. Products such as bleach and oven cleaner are alkaline substances, but some related adhesive and sealant products may also contain strong acids and alkalis, so we should all be aware of the legislation.

According to the UK charity Acid Survivors Trust International (Asti), using freedom of information requests, figures show the police in England and Wales recorded 710 corrosive substance attacks in 2022, the most recent data available. This was up from 421 in 2021 during the Covid pandemic. They peaked at 949 in 2017 before new legislation targeting the sale and possession of corrosive substances was introduced. NHS data for England shows 82 admissions to hospital in 2022-2023, and in earlier years an average of about 100 admissions a year. The region with the highest number of admissions in the most recent years was the north-west.

New measures targeting attacks with corrosive substances came into force in 2022 and they were part of the Offensive Weapons Act of 2019, which introduced two new offences: selling a corrosive product (both over the counter and online) to a person under the age of 18; and possessing a corrosive substance in a public place without good reason or lawful authority.

Possession of a corrosive substance in a public place carries a prison sentence of up to four years. It was already a crime under the Offences against the Person Act 1861 to use a corrosive substance with intent to inflict grievous bodily harm. This offence carries a maximum sentence of life imprisonment in England, Wales and Northern Ireland.

Part 1 of the Offensive Weapons act restricts access to the most harmful corrosive substances by under 18s by

making it an offence to sell a corrosive product, whether over the counter or online, to someone under 18 years of age. The definition of a "corrosive product" is as provided by Schedule 1 of the Act, and is reproduced below:

Name of substance and Chemical Abstracts Registry Number (CAS RN)	Concentration limit (weight in weight)
Ammonium hydroxide (CAS RN 1336-21-6)	10% w/w
Formic acid (CAS RN 64-18-6)	10% w/w
Hydrochloric acid (CAS RN 7647-01-0)	10% w/w
Hydrofluoric acid (CAS RN 7664-39-3)	0% w/w
Nitric acid (CAS RN 7697-37-2)	3% w/w
Phosphoric acid (CAS RN 7664-38-2)	70% w/w
Sodium hydroxide (CAS RN 1310-73-2)	12% w/w
Sodium hypochlorite (CAS RN 7681-52-9)	10% w/w
Sulfuric acid (CAS RN 7664-93-9)	15% w/w

Some of the substances defined as corrosive products are commonly used in household products such as high strength drain cleaners/unblockers, paint strippers, brick and patio cleaners, cleaning products, rust or limescale removers. However, products such as normal strength household bleach and cleaners will not be caught by the age restrictions on sales as they tend to be more of an irritant and do not contain corrosive chemicals at the concentrations set out in the Schedule. Sellers will, however, need to check their product ranges to ensure that they know which products meet the definition of a corrosive product and must not be sold to a person under 18.

In the case of business-to-business supply and purchasing of corrosive products, the sale and delivery provisions would not apply as the sale is being made to a business and not to a person under 18. The only exception is where a business is run by a sole trader who is under 18. In these circumstances, the sole trader would need to make arrangements for the corrosive products to be purchased by, and delivered to, a person who is over 18.

It should be noted that these restrictions are under the Offensive Weapons Act. Other legislation (eg the 1972 Poisons Act) deals with poisons and explosives precursors, which may introduce additional restrictions for substances like hydrochloric acid, which are also listed as a regulated explosives precursor and cannot be sold to any member of the

public, even if they are over 18 years of age, without an Explosives Precursors and Poisons (EPP) licence issued by the Home Office and an associated photographic identity document.

See online version of this Bulletin on the BASA website for the below useful links.

BASA Working Group content (Members-only area of the website)

GN100 - Sales of adhesives and sealants to under 18s- v1.0

Guidance Note - Mixtures containing explosives precursors and poisons from 1st October 2023

Mixtures containing ≥ 10% Hydrochloric Acid – changes under the Control of Explosives Precursors and Poisons Regulations 2023

Guidance Frequently asked questions: The Poison Act 1972 and the Control of Poisons and Explosives Precursors Regulations 2023

Home Office Publishes Updated Guidance on Explosives Precursors

The Control of Explosives Precursors and Poisons Regulations 2023

UK Government Guidance

Supplying explosives precursors and poisons - Updated 29 November 2023

Offensive Weapons Act 2019 PART 1 - Possession of corrosive substances

Offensive Weapons Act 2019 – Statutory Guidance

Navigating Post-Brexit Challenges: UK Chemicals Industry and Regulatory Divergence



As the United Kingdom (UK) charts its course post-Brexit, one sector facing significant challenges is the chemicals industry. With the end of the transition period, the UK now has the autonomy to shape its own regulatory framework. However, this newfound freedom comes with complexities, particularly concerning chemicals and product legislation. Navigating the divergence from EU regulations poses substantial hurdles for businesses, requiring strategic planning and adaptation. When you add challenges of the land border between Northern Ireland and the EU and the reality of NI following EU legislation and GB diverging, it is easy to see the potential for chaos!

Regulatory Landscape Pre- and Post-Brexit

Before Brexit, the UK chemicals industry operated under the framework of European Union regulations, primarily governed by the Registration, Evaluation, Authorization, and Restriction of Chemicals (REACH) regulation. REACH provided a comprehensive system for the registration, evaluation, and authorization of chemicals, ensuring high standards of safety and environmental protection.

Post-Brexit, the UK established its own regulatory regime, UK REACH, to manage chemicals within its borders. While UK REACH mirrors many aspects of its EU counterpart, there are notable differences, including registration requirements, data sharing arrangements, and the role of regulatory authorities. These variances introduce complexity and uncertainty for businesses operating in both the UK and EU markets, and again cause specific issues for Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland in terms of movement of goods.

Challenges of Regulatory Divergence

One of the primary challenges facing the chemicals industry post-Brexit is regulatory divergence between the UK and the EU. Misalignment in regulatory standards can create barriers to trade, increase compliance costs, and hinder market access. For businesses that export or import chemicals and formulated products, navigating divergent regulatory requirements adds layers of bureaucracy and administrative burden.

Regulatory divergence raises concerns about maintaining product safety and environmental standards. Harmonization of regulations between the UK and the EU ensured a consistent approach to risk management and compliance. Divergence risks fragmenting the regulatory landscape, potentially compromising safety and sustainability objectives.

BASA is working hard to help member companies navigate this divergence, producing weekly clinics and guidance notes.



Impact on Businesses

The implications of regulatory divergence extend beyond administrative complexities. For businesses operating across borders, divergent regulations necessitate strategic decisions regarding market prioritization, supply chain management, and investment allocation. Smaller enterprises, in particular, may struggle to adapt to the additional regulatory burden, potentially limiting their competitiveness and growth prospects.

Additionally, regulatory uncertainty undermines business confidence and investment certainty. Rapid changes in regulatory requirements or lack of clarity on future regulations can deter investment in research and development, innovation, and infrastructure. Long-term planning becomes challenging in an environment characterized by regulatory flux.

Strategies for Adaptation

In navigating the challenges of post-Brexit regulatory divergence, the chemicals industry must adopt proactive strategies to ensure resilience and competitiveness. This includes:

- 1. Regulatory Compliance:** Businesses must stay abreast of evolving regulations in both the UK and EU markets, ensuring compliance with applicable requirements. BASA can help here.
- 2. Investment in Expertise:** Investing in regulatory expertise and capacity building is essential for navigating complex compliance landscapes and managing regulatory risks effectively. BASA can help to offset some of these costs with provision of limited support to member companies on specific questions, and the provision of templates and guidance notes that may help mitigate some of the costs.
- 3. Collaboration and Advocacy:** BASA is ideally placed to engage with policymakers and regulatory authorities to advocate for regulatory alignment where feasible and to influence the development of future regulations.
- 4. Diversification and Innovation:** Diversifying markets and supply chains and investing in innovation can mitigate the impacts of regulatory divergence and enhance competitiveness in a changing regulatory environment.

Conclusion

The UK chemicals industry faces significant challenges in adapting to post-Brexit regulatory divergence. Navigating the complexities of divergent regulations requires strategic planning, investment in expertise, and proactive engagement with stakeholders. By embracing these challenges as opportunities for innovation and adaptation, the industry can position itself for sustainable growth and competitiveness in the evolving regulatory landscape.

We at BASA help our member companies and provide an excellent return on the annual fees.

Scott Bader announces intent to invest £30m to transform Flagship UK manufacturing site

Scott Bader UK, a Northamptonshire-based specialist in composite and adhesive materials, announces the intent to invest £30M to transform its flagship UK manufacturing site. The five-year programme will commence in 2024 with £8M earmarked for the first phase of the works. This planned investment will support the group's UK customers by making the plant more flexible- enabling quicker lead times and the rapid scaling up of an increasing number of sustainable alternatives to the Group's current products as well as new performance products in areas such as 3D printing.

"The planned investment reaffirms our commitment to the UK composite supply chain and to all our colleagues, partners and associates that benefit from our long-standing presence at Wollaston," says Scott Bader's CEO, Kevin Matthews. "In addition, the investment will upgrade our capability to continue to develop and supply new sustainable performance materials designed to help our customers on their journey to net zero."

This significant commitment to the UK market will ensure the future of Scott Bader's key product brands including Crystic® resins and gelcoats, Crestabond® structural adhesives and Crestapol® performance resins.

Recent R&D investment - both in the UK and globally - has bolstered Scott Bader's exploration of more sustainable alternatives and innovations that lead to the 'lightweighting' of composite parts for markets such as EV's, renewable energy and land transportation, as well as the development of bio-based ingredients for the personal care market.

Alongside allocating the capital to transform its UK site, the company

has also created a €2M laboratory facility in France, which will open in Q1 2024. Outside of Europe, Scott Bader's two-year build of a \$16M new manufacturing facility in Mocksville, USA, also becomes fully operational in 2024. These investments are designed to bring Scott Bader's enhanced capabilities closer to its global customer base, helping with the longer term goal of shortening supply chains and lowering the carbon footprint associated with transporting goods.

For further information visit www.scott.bader.com



Tribute to Kevin Rafferty, 1968 - 2024

A message from Kieran Rafferty, Rakem Group. My Brother Kevin very sadly passed away unexpectedly on Sunday 28th January 2024.

Kevin's funeral was held on Friday 1st March at 12pm at St Osmund's Church, followed by a service at East Lancashire Crematorium.

Kev was the life and sole of many parties and I know he is relying on us to give him the send off he deserves.

If you would like to make a donation in Kevin's memory to one of his and Emma's chosen charities, or to leave condolences for his family and friends, you can do so at the online memorial page linked below.

Thank you to everyone who has already sent cards, flowers and messages of support, they have been very much appreciated.

<https://kevinrafferty.muchloved.com>



Pictured: Kevin Rafferty (Right) receiving a fellowship by the Royal Society of Chemistry for his dedication and outstanding contribution within the chemical sciences industry.

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Mapei – A focus on sustainability

As a result of our commitment to reduce our impact on the planet, we have a new section dedicated to Sustainability on our website.

<http://sustainability.mapei.it/>

Mapei (UK) is thrilled to announce a significant step forward in our commitment to sustainability and environmental stewardship. In alignment with our ongoing efforts to integrate sustainable practices across all operations, we are looking to appoint a new Sustainability Officer. This strategic addition to our team underlines our dedication to not only meeting but exceeding their sustainability goals.

In this role, our Sustainability Officer will be responsible for developing and implementing our sustainability strategy, ensuring that we adhere to the highest environmental standards. This will include oversight of our efforts to reduce carbon emissions, enhance energy efficiency, and promote sustainable resource use throughout our operations. They will also play a crucial role in engaging with stakeholders, including corporate departments, employees, customers, and suppliers, to foster a culture of

sustainability within and beyond our company.

Phil Breakspear (Managing Director), expressed excitement about the appointment, stating, **"Bringing a Sustainability Officer on board is a pivotal moment for Mapei (UK). The expertise and passion for sustainability will be instrumental in driving our efforts forward. This new appointment will not only reflect our commitment to environmental responsibility but also our belief in the importance of sustainability as a cornerstone of our business strategy."**

Contact Paul Hodgetts for more information.

p.hodgetts@mapei.co.uk

This confirms the investment by the Mapei Group into the UK market after the announcement last year about the acquisition of a second sight in the Northwest to provide a new manufacturing facility for Mapei admixtures.

We look forward to featuring the opening of the new facility in the next issue of the BASA Bulletin.



Chemique Adhesives unveils new updated logo

Chemique Adhesives, a leading UK manufacturer of industrial adhesives has recently announced the unveiling of its revamped company logo. This strategic redesign marks a significant milestone in the company's growth, adapting a fresh, modern look.

Since its establishment in 1985, the company has witnessed many changes including a recent expansion, driven by sustained growth. The updated logo represents the current identity of the company and stands as a visual testament to its future aspirations.

"Recognising the need for change, we felt it was the ideal time to evaluate our company logo and introduce modern components to its design," commented Jennie Mayou, marketing manager at Chemique Adhesives & Sealants Ltd. "Whilst we have embraced a more contemporary look, the new logo also retains elements that pay tribute to the company's legacy and longstanding commitment to producing quality adhesives for nearly four decades."

The rebranding initiative also reflects the recent changes made to the company's re-designed website which offers visitors an enhanced design, simplified navigation, and an improved user experience, showcasing their extensive product range.

Stuart Francis, managing director at Chemique Adhesives & Sealants Ltd commented "We are thrilled to unveil our updated logo that demonstrates our commitment to adaptability and growth. This design not only reflects our dedication to delivering exceptional products but also signifies our vision for a dynamic and successful future. We are confident that the new logo will resonate with our valued customers and attract new audiences, strengthening our presence in the market."

www.chemiqueadhesives.com

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www.cia.org.uk/reachready

Your Member Benefits



Events and Networking

We run events for members throughout the year including; the AGM, Business Forum & Industry Lunch, Sports Day & a new BASA Awards Night. We also hold free Technical Forums online.



Online Support

We run a free 30-minute virtual drop-in session to present important regulatory, and business information and general guidance for members every Friday at 10am.



Affinity Partners

Our affiliation offers members access to the Construction Products Association guidance notes and research and the FEICA extranet. We also work closely with BSI, ACA, BCF, ASA, TWI, SAA & TTA on a number of topics.



Trade Association Directory

Free listing in the BASA Handbook, distributed at the CHEMUK exhibition and promoted on our socials, as well as an online directory on the BASA website. We also encourage members to send in their company news to publish in the BASA Bulletin and on our social platforms.



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