

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 developed the training content and how?

FEICA, in coordination with the European Diisocyanate & Polyol Producers Association (ISOPA), the European Aliphatic Isocyanates Producer Association (ALIPA), and several other industries in the polyurethane industry, launched a comprehensive training programme to ensure the safe use of diisocyanates for producers and professional users all over Europe. In this way, FEICA also ensures that all end-users of PU containing adhesives and sealants across Europe continue to handle diisocyanates safely.

What is the training about?

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

How is training provided?

A PU Training Platform can be accessed via www.safeusediisocyanates.eu. It is available in 6 languages and is accessible across the EU. All remaining EU languages will be added on a rolling-basis by the end of 2022.

You can find further information via www.feica.eu/PUinfo.






How can the training be accessed?

The training is available in the form of e-learning for ease of use. Additionally, the material is available to organisations 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.

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 **disocyanates** was published in the Official Journal of the European Union. It targets respiratory and dermal sensitisation potentially caused by disocyanates 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 disocyanates safely. This will apply to all professional and industrial users of products with a total monomeric disocyanate concentration of > 0.1%. Since 24 February 2022, such products have to carry a phrase on the label indicating the requirement of training. FEICA, in coordination with ISOPH and ALIPA, the disocyanate manufacturers' industry associations, prepared training material for use by its members and by adhesive or sealant users, which is available via FEICA's dedicated PU Training webpage: www.feica.eu/PUList.

The PU Training Platform, available in six languages, can be accessed via www.safeuseofdisocyanates.eu. The training platform will be available in all EU languages by the end of 2022. 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 by 24 August 2023. 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.

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

Timeline:
24 February 2022: Labelling requirements on pack
24 August 2023: All users trained and certified

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

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

