

Coating Additives Products

Information on 1,4-dioxane

The German competent authority for REACH has identified a potential risk to sources of Europe's drinking water from 1,4-dioxane. Due to its substance properties, 1,4-dioxane is easily distributed in the aquatic environment and is difficult to remove from raw water in the drinking water purification processes.

The major sources of emissions were not solely related to uses of 1,4-dioxane as such, but also to uses of chemicals that contain 1,4-dioxane as an impurity, such as a by-product in the polymerization process. In all cases reviewed so far, the occurrence of 1,4-dioxane is unpreventable due to the underlying reaction processes.

1,4-Dioxane can be considered as a relevant substance of very high concern from the environmental perspective. 1,4-Dioxane is a persistent, mobile and toxic substance. These properties led the German competent authority for REACH to recently propose 1,4-dioxane as an SVHC.

The German competent authority for REACH intends to submit a restriction proposal for placing on the market of 1,4-dioxane as such, or as a constituent or impurity in other substances or mixtures. The restriction proposal will also introduce requirements, i.e. concentration limit values, for contaminated waters from application processes of 1,4-dioxane or substances and mixtures containing 1,4-dioxane, which are intended to be released – regardless of whether directly emitted into the environment or into the public sewer system.

The substance has a harmonized classification as Carc. 2, H351 under CLP (Regulation (EC) No. 1272/2008) and an even more stringent classification as Carc. 1B, H350 has been proposed and included in the draft 17th ATP to CLP.

Situation at Evonik Coating Additives

1,4-Dioxane is not intentionally used during the production of our products nor used as an ingredient. As explained above, impurities can occur in the

production process of polyethers, which are widely used in coating applications. In a first analytical assessment we did not detect 1,4-Dioxane down to a detection limit of 2 ppm. Therefore, at this point in time we do not expect the presence of 1,4- Dioxane in critical concentrations in our product portfolio.

Since the restriction proposal is on the preparatory phase, it is neither finally clear which criteria would be crucial for the future restriction, nor which limits will be potentially considered. The restriction conditions will be elaborated in more detail during the development of the proposal including the socio – economic analysis, taking into account the information received in the call for evidence.

We trust that the provided information ensures you to purchase REACH compliant products from Coating Additives business line of Evonik.

In case of any questions concerning the provided information or if you need additional advice you are welcome to contact us:

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The information given above is based on and represents our current compositional knowledge (based on the knowledge of the production process, supplier information for raw materials and analytical data where applicable).

Please note that Evonik Operations GmbH does not analyse whether the mentioned substances are contained, because the content of such substances is not part of our product specification or formulation.

We use raw materials of technical purity, therefore negligible amounts on the level of natural / technical impurities cannot be excluded.

In case of provided values these are considered to be typical concentrations and are not part of the product specification.

All provided information is based on our present knowledge and experience and is true and complete to the best of our knowledge and belief. However, no warranty, whether expressed or implied, or guarantee of product properties in the legal sense is intended or implied.

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