

**July 2009**

## **REACH: Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation of Chemicals** (Regulation EC 1907/2006)

Dow Corning – one of the world’s leading manufacturers of silicone and polycrystalline silicon – has a long established commitment to Responsible Care® and focus on sustainable development. Dow Corning fully supports the aims of the REACH regulation. These include improving levels of protection to human health and the environment and requiring the chemical industry to have an appropriate level of knowledge of the properties of chemicals, their uses, and to manage risk through the supply chain.

REACH entered into force on 1 June, 2007. The Regulation requires a significant amount of information to be generated and exchanged among supply chain partners and with the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA). Dow Corning has developed tools to enable a structured, effective and secure exchange of information between customers, channel partners and suppliers.

As supply chain members work to comply with REACH, we have seen an increasing demand for information, which is accompanied by various forms and questionnaires. Dow Corning will ensure that all information required for its REACH compliance will be made available on a timely basis.

Below we outline some key aspects of Dow Corning’s implementation:

- Not all of our product portfolio will require registration.
- Dow Corning has been proactive in pre-registering all substances in its current portfolio for which it has responsibilities and obligations to do so under REACH, and we are working with raw material suppliers and downstream customers to confirm their compliance. This is important to minimize chances of supply chain interruptions.
- Dow Corning is working toward registration according to the REACH implementation timeline, and will comply with the applicable phased registration requirements (transitional provisions during the period 2010- 2018) under REACH. We will work with customers to understand the uses of our products. Provided those uses are supported by Dow Corning, and can be safely continued, Dow Corning intends for such uses to be registered. Should customers, for confidentiality reasons, not wish to disclose their use of Dow Corning products (which containing substance(s) manufactured or imported into the EU by Dow Corning), REACH allows for the downstream user to assume the sole responsibility to register their use of such substance directly with ECHA.

- In circumstances where we are unable to obtain an ingredient, due to its withdrawal by our suppliers, we will take whatever proactive steps are commercially feasible for Dow Corning to reformulate or revise our product. We shall keep our customers informed in these circumstances.
- Except where use of the substance is business confidential, Dow Corning plans to provide information to our suppliers as reasonably required to ensure that key raw materials will be supported ( and registered where required), and that our manufacturing processes will not be affected by REACH. Use and exposure guidelines provided under RIP 3.2.2-IV will form the basis of this exchange. Note: Use information is not required for industrial products which are not classified as hazardous (Annex III) and are produced at less than 10 tonnes per year.

Users of chemicals who are unfamiliar with their obligations under REACH are invited to refer to the [REACH Navigator – About REACH](#) provided by the European Chemicals Agency.

Dow Corning has a team of regulatory specialists available to respond to further, specific questions with regard to this Statement. Send your enquiry to: [reachsupport@dowcorning.com](mailto:reachsupport@dowcorning.com).

**Dow Corning Corporation**  
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