



## Spirit AeroSystems REACH Compliance information for Suppliers

### **What is REACH?**

REACH - Registration, Evaluation, Authorization (and/or Restriction), of Chemicals. It is a new hazardous materials management regulation that was recently implemented within the European Union (EU). It will ultimately replace many of the existing hazardous materials management regulations that currently exist within the EU member states. The main objective of REACH is to protect human health and the environment. To do this, all substances (basically hazardous materials by US definition) and their intended uses must be registered with the European Chemical Agency. Substances that are identified by member states as posing a very high risk to human health or the environment are labeled as Substances of Very High Concern (SVHC). It is the intent of the European Chemical Agency to remove identified SVHCs from the marketplace, thus improving the environment.

REACH can be compared to U.S. legislation contained within Toxic Substances Control Act.

### **Who is affected by REACH?**

REACH applies to all substances and their preparations that are:

- Bought for use in Europe
- Made anywhere for use in Europe
- Made in Europe for use anywhere

REACH is intended to regulate the manufacture, import and use of substances within the geographical boundaries of the EU. REACH requires manufacturers, importers and companies using chemicals in the EU to be responsible for assessing and managing risks to health and the environment as a result of using chemicals in their processes.

### **What does it mean to customers and suppliers?**

Any company that sells directly to the EU, or to a company that supplies its products directly or as part of an assembly, must have detailed knowledge of the materials and processes used to make its products. In addition, the company must also know the concentration, in percent by weight, of any SVHC substance that is included in their products so this information can either be used to register their product or be provided to their customer (downstream user).

REACH requires communication up and down the supply chain. It requires suppliers/importers to have detailed knowledge about the processes and materials used to manufacture their products and/or the amount of SVHC substances, in percent by weight, included in their products so this information can be supplied to the downstream user. It requires the downstream user to communicate with the supplier about how they use their products so the product can be properly registered.

REACH may mean that some of the critical materials that are needed for manufacturing will no longer be available. Companies, in particular EU Companies, that provide critical substances or products used in manufacturing processes may determine that REACH is cost prohibitive and choose to no longer produce a specific substance or product.

REACH will likely force the implementation of Globally Harmonized Systems (GHS). The GHS is a process that was developed to report information associated with chemicals, hazardous materials, etc. The United States utilizes Materials Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) to report this information; REACH will likely utilize Safety Data Sheets (SDS). Although similar, the two reporting methods are different.

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For more information, Spirit suppliers may e-mail [Spirit REACH compliance](#).