



1 September 2008

General customer information on REACH (Regulation concerning the Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals)

The European Chemicals Regulation REACH has been directly applicable in all EU member states since 1 January 2007 and will enter into force on 1 June 2007.

REACH which includes the three elements of registration, evaluation and authorisation of chemicals will create a comprehensive management of chemicals to ensure a European-wide high safety standard regarding environmental and health risks upon use of chemicals. The duty of registration and evaluation will apply to manufacturers and importers of chemicals from non-EU countries which place more than one tonne of a chemical substance on the market per year. It will also apply to manufacturers of non-chemical products (articles) if these articles release chemical substances under normal or reasonably foreseeable conditions of use and if their total content in the articles of the manufacturer is more than 1t/a. Particularly worrying substances will additionally be subject to authorisation.

SICK is a manufacturer of sensors for factory and process automation. All SICK products are manufactured in accordance with the regulations, including REACH, applicable to them. Within the meaning of the REACH Regulation, SICK products are articles (non-chemical products) and, as far as is apparent, they are not subject to registration, evaluation or authorisation because, to the best of our knowledge, no chemical substances are released under normal or reasonably foreseeable conditions of use, or their total content does not exceed the quantity of 1t/a.

A duty of information for manufacturers of articles pursuant to Art. 33 of the REACH Regulation only applies to so-called worrying substances meeting the criteria set out in Art. 57. In addition, the article must contain these substances in a concentration above 0.1 % weight by weight (w/w). The European Chemicals Agency shall identify which substances fall into this category (Art. 59) and shall include them on the so-called candidate list. The publication of the first version is expected by June 2009 (Art. 58 (3)). The duty to communicate information may not be performed until the candidate list is not available. If, in addition, the total content of worrying substances in the articles is above 1t/a, a notification to the European Chemicals Agency is necessary, however, not before 2011. (Source: ZVEI guidelines on the duty of information of companies pursuant to Art. 33 of the REACH Regulation)

If and to the extent that particularly worrying substances are contained in our articles, we will meet our obligations in accordance with REACH.

Through communication with our chemicals suppliers, we will try to safeguard the further delivery of all chemicals which are necessary for us and thus the reliable delivery of our end products to our customers.

Yours faithfully,
SICK AG