

IMEC

Global Scan

July-December 2024

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# Methodology

In this Global Scan, logos has identified relevant information on legislative actions and upcoming policy trends on chemicals and chemical policy across Tier I and Tier II countries:

- Tier I: US, Canada, Australia, New Zealand
- Tier II: China, Japan, South Korea, Brazil

We are constantly working towards covering as many countries and topics as possible, not least through the support of MIAs and ICOMIA's Environmental and Technical Consultants. If you wish to share any additional information to be included in the Global Scan, please contact [jade.prehel@logos-pa.com](mailto:jade.prehel@logos-pa.com).

# Tier I countries





# United States

## DecaBDE and PIP (3:1): Toxic Substances Control Act revised and amended

On 19 November 2024, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) [issued](#) a final rule revising regulations for two persistent, bioaccumulative, and toxic (PBT) chemicals: Decabromodiphenyl ether (decaBDE) and Phenol, isopropylated phosphate (3:1) [PIP (3:1)]. These revisions aim to resolve implementation issues and further reduce human and environmental exposure.

Regarding **DecaBDE**, the revision includes:

- Mandatory personal protective equipment (PPE) during specific activities.
- Prohibition on water releases during manufacturing, processing, and distribution.
- Extended compliance date for nuclear power generation wire and cable insulation.
- Export notification requirement for decaBDE-containing wire and cable.
- Allowance for unintentional decaBDE at concentrations <0.1% by weight in products.

Regarding **PIP (3:1)**, used in flame retardant, plasticizer, hydraulic fluids, and manufacturing, the revision includes:

- Mandatory PPE during domestic manufacturing and processing.
- Phase-outs for certain uses.
- New exclusions for wire harnesses, circuit boards, and related products.
- Exclusion for new and replacement parts containing PIP (3:1).
- Allowance for unintentional PIP (3:1) at concentrations <0.1% by weight.

**Timeline:** This rule will be effective on 21 January 2025.

**Relevance:** Both DecaBDE and PIP (3:1) are used in flame retardant and plastics.



# United States

## Data Reporting Rule: U.S. EPA requires data from manufacturers and importers of certain chemical substances

On 13 December 2024, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) [issued](#) a final Health and Safety Data Reporting Rule requiring manufacturers and importers of specific chemical substances to submit unpublished health and safety studies. This rule applies to entities operating within North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) Subsector 325 (chemical manufacturing and allied products) or Industry Group 32411 (petroleum refineries). The rule applies to:

- **4,4'-Methylene bis(2-chloraniline)** (CASRN 101-14-4),
- **4-tert-octylphenol (4-(1,1,3,3-Tetramethylbutyl)-phenol)** (CASRN 140-66-9),
- **Acrylonitrile** (CASRN 107-13-1)
- **Benzenamine** (CASRN 62-53-3)
- **Benzene** (CASRN 71-43-2)
- **Bisphenol A** (CASRN 80-05-7)
- **Ethylbenzene** (CASRN 100-41-4)
- **Vinyl Chloride** (CASRN 75-01-4)
- **Styrene** (CASRN 100-42-5)
- **Tribromomethane (Bromoform)** (CASRN 75-25-2)
- **Triglycidyl isocyanurate** (CASRN 2451-62-9)
- **Hydrogen fluoride** (CASRN 7664-39-3)
- **N-(1,3-Dimethylbutyl)-N'-phenyl-p-phenylenediamine (6PPD)** (CASRN 793-24-8)
- **2-Anilino-5-[(4-methylpentan-2-yl)amino]cyclohexa-2,5-diene-1,4-dione (6PPD-quinone)** (CASRN 2754428-18-5).

**Timeline:** This reporting rule is effective from 13 January 2025 and the deadline for reporting is 13 March 2025.

**Relevance:** The concerned chemicals are used in manufacturing plastics, resins, rubbers, dyes, and coatings but also employed in refining, glass etching, chemical synthesis, antioxidants or stabilizers in rubber and other products like flame retardants or electronics.



# United States

## Bisphenol S: substance added to California's Proposition 65 list of chemicals

On 29 December 2024, Bisphenol S (BPS) was added to California's Proposition 65 list of chemicals due to evidence of female reproductive toxicity after a 12-month grace period. From that date forward, businesses must provide warnings if products that are sold, used in homes or workplaces, or released into the environment, contain significant amounts of BPS.

**Timeline:** The classification entered into force on 29 December. The list must be updated once a year (next time on 29 December 2025).

**Relevance:** Common uses of BPS include curing epoxy glues, corrosion inhibitor, and several polymer.

You can find the updates list of chemicals [here](#) (in English).



# United States

## Toxic Substances Control Act: new risk evaluations for 5 chemicals

On 18 December 2024, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) designated five chemicals as High-Priority Substances (HPS) under the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA). Vinyl Chloride, Acetaldehyde, Acrylonitrile, Benzenamine and 4,4'-Methylene bis(2-chloroaniline) (MBOCA) will undergo risk evaluations to determine if they pose unreasonable risks to health or the environment. If risk evaluations find unreasonable risks, EPA will initiate risk management measures.

EPA has also started the 9- to 12-month prioritisation process for the next five chemicals, which may lead to future risk evaluations:

- Benzene
- Ethylbenzene
- Naphthalene
- Styrene
- 4-tert-Octylphenol

**Timeline:** EPA has opened a 90-day public comment period for these five chemical substances and plans to publish a proposed designation document in 2025 followed by another 90-day comment period.

**Relevance:** Vinyl Chloride is used in PVC production, Acetaldehyde is used in adhesives and petrochemical manufacturing, Acrylonitrile is used in plastics and paints, Benzenamine is used in plastics, and resins while 4,4'-Methylene bis(2-chloroaniline) (MBOCA) can be found in rubber and plastics. Regarding the prioritised chemicals, Benzene is used in adhesives and petrochemicals, Ethylbenzene can be found in petrochemicals, paints, and adhesives, Naphthalene is used in fuels and coatings, Styrene in plastics and 4-tert-Octylphenol in plastic and rubber products.



# United States

## PFAS: joint petition calling on the U.S. EPA to expand regulatory framework to PFAS in air emission

End of November 2024, North Carolina, New Mexico, and New Jersey have signed and sent a petition pushing the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to designate key PFAS chemicals—PFOA, PFOS, PFNA, and HFPO-DA—as hazardous air pollutants under the Clean Air Act.

Meanwhile, States are implementing diverse bans and restrictions:

- Connecticut [bans](#) PFAS in products like textiles, cookware, and cosmetics, requiring labeling by 2026 and a full ban by 2028.
- Maryland [prohibits](#) PFAS in playground surfacing materials from October 2024.
- Massachusetts [phases](#) out PFAS in firefighting gear, with a full ban by January 2027.
- New Hampshire [mandates](#) disclosure of PFAS in firefighting gear and bans such products by January 2025.
- New Jersey [bans](#) PFAS in firefighting foam by January 2026 and establishes a disposal program.
- Rhode Island delays PFAS [bans](#) in food packaging to 2025 and expands restrictions to other materials like PVC and polystyrene.
- Vermont [bans](#) PFAS in cosmetics, textiles, and athletic turf fields, with most measures effective by 2026.

**Timeline:** As the petition is not legally binding, there is no timeline determined.

**Relevance:** This patchwork of State regulations highlights growing momentum for comprehensive national PFAS standards, though variations in definitions and timelines create compliance challenges for manufacturers.

You can find [here](#) the petition (in English).





# Canada

## Chemicals: Canada willingness to unmask 198 confidential substances in domestic substances list

On 10 August 2024, Canada's Department of Environment opened announced, through a public consultation, the willingness of on unmasking the identities of 198 substances listed confidentially in Part 3 of the Domestic Substances List (DSL) under the Canadian Environmental Protection Act (CEPA). In other words, the Canadian Department of Environment would reveal the true identities of certain chemicals that were previously kept confidential. These chemicals are currently listed with "masked names" (generic names) and confidential accession numbers (unique identifiers).

**Timeline:** The consultation lasted for 60 days but no date was announced for the next step.

**Relevance:** Companies that rely on confidentiality for competitive advantage may face challenges, such as revealing proprietary formulations or business strategies to competitors. As several substances are used in plasticizers, metal complexing agent, coatings and sealants, this could have an impact on the prices of certain relevant products.

You can find the full list of substances [here](#) (in English)



# Canada

## Biocidal products: New Biocide Regulation

Announced on 31 May 2024, the new Canadian Biocides Regulation aims to address regulatory differences between biocides. The changes would transfer disinfectants and sanitizers currently under FDR and PCPA into the new framework. It aims to introduce a modern authorisation system with safety, efficacy, and quality requirements while maintaining life-cycle oversight. Additionally, it will create a pathway for recognising decisions from other regulators, starting with the U.S. EPA, to streamline approvals.

Under this regulation, Biocides will have to undergo premarket assessment with the Natural and Non-prescription Health Products Directorate (NNHPD) for market authorisation before being sold or advertised. Products that meet safety, efficacy, and quality standards will receive an 8-digit biocide number. Compliance will be monitored post-market by inspectors and the Marketed Health Products Directorate (MHPD). Until the entry into force of the Regulation, biocides will continue under FDR or PCPA rules.

**Timeline:** The Regulation will come into force on 31 May 2025.

**Relevance:** Antifouling paints are biocidal products.

You can find the Regulation [here](#) (in English)



# Canada

## PFAS: Canada requires companies to report on specific data

On 27 July 2024, Canada required companies handling specific PFAS (listed in Schedule 1 of the notice) to report detailed data on their manufacturing, import, and use of these substances during 2023. The goal is to assess the toxicity of these PFAS and consider control measures. The notice requires companies to provide data on quantities, uses, and concentrations of PFAS, as well as information on release management practices and any available technical data. Exceptions apply to items in transit, personal use, lab research, certain agricultural products, and micro-businesses.

This request from the Canadian Government and the collected data will be used to establish a baseline for future activities related to the class of PFAS.

**Timeline:** Deadline for responding to the notice is 29 January 2025.

**Relevance:** Future classification of these sub-trades could lead to restrictions or even bans, which could have an impact on the production chain.

You can find the notice [here](#) (in English) and a guidance document [here](#) (in English)



# Australia

## IChEMS Register: new chemicals placed under Schedule 6 and 2

On 5 July 2024, Australia amended its IChEMS Register, a regulatory list that tracks hazardous chemicals. It categorizes substances based on their risk levels, determining how they should be controlled. Chemicals in Schedule 6 are subject to strict regulations, while those in Schedule 3 and Schedule 2 have varying levels of oversight based on their potential hazards:

- Dechlorane Plus and UV-328 are being placed under Schedule 6 of the IChEMS Register, implying strict control measures for their use due to potential hazards.
- Melamine and Boric acid are placed under Schedule 2, requiring less stringent but still significant oversight.

**Timeline:** The update will become effective from 1 July 2026

**Relevance:** Dechlorane Plus is a flame retardant used in various products, including electronics, plastics, and textiles, to prevent fires. UV-328 is a UV stabilizer used to protect materials like plastics, paints, and coatings from degradation caused by exposure to sunlight. Melamine is primarily used in producing plastics and adhesives while Boric acid is used in manufacturing glass, ceramics, and as preservative.

You can find the full register [here](#) (in English)



# Australia

## IChEMS Register: inclusion of new chemicals

On 27 September 2024, the Australian Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW) proposed scheduling decisions for 5 groups of chemicals and their specific risk management measures under the IChEMS but also some variations to the existing IChEMS standards for 4 groups of chemicals. After a consultation which was open until 25 October 2024, the Department decided that the import, export, manufacture, or use of HCB, PCBs, and PCTs within Australia will be strictly restricted or prohibited.

**Timeline:** The restrictions and prohibitions will become effective from 1 July 2025.

**Relevance:** HCB (Hexachlorobenzene) is used in the manufacture of rubber, dyes, and other chemicals. PCBs (Polychlorinated Biphenyls) are used for electrical equipment, plasticizers and paints. PCTs (Polychlorinated Terphenyls) are used in PVC, Sealants and adhesives.



# New Zealand

## POPs: inclusion of 3 new POPs under HSNO Act

As Australia, in the last days of July 2024, New Zealand's Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) opened a consultation on a proposal to prohibit or restrict three newly classified persistent organic pollutants (POPs):

- Dechlorane Plus (except for marine power equipment, instruments for analysis, measurements, control, monitoring, production and inspection)
- UV-328

These chemicals were recently added to Annex A of the Stockholm Convention for elimination, obligating New Zealand to limit their use and production. The EPA plans to include them in Schedules 1AA and 2A of the Hazardous Substances and New Organisms Act (HSNO Act) to enforce these restrictions.

**Timeline:** Public feedback is invited until 4 September 2024.

**Relevance:** Dechlorane Plus is a flame retardant used in various products, including electronics, plastics, and textiles, to prevent fires. UV-328 is a UV stabilizer used to protect materials like plastics, paints, and coatings from degradation caused by exposure to sunlight.



# New Zealand

## Paints: amendments of maximum levels of contained lead impurities

On 19 August 2024, the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) of New Zealand decided to adopt the amendments to a series of group standards to reduce the maximum allowable levels of lead impurities in paint. New rules are:

- Lead impurities in all paints covered by the Surface Coatings and Colourants Group Standards and Aerosols Group Standards must not exceed 90 ppm.
- Anti-rust paints using the Corrosion Inhibitors Group Standards now must also meet the 90 ppm lead impurity limits.
- Importers and manufacturers must have test results (or other evidence) showing compliance with the lead limits.

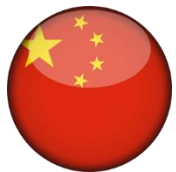
**Timeline:** From 1 March 2025, importing or manufacturing non-compliant products will be prohibited, but importers, suppliers, retailers, and consumers can still sell or use those already in New Zealand. Notably, any products or substances that do not meet the requirements of these amended group standards should be disposed of safely by 1 September 2025.

**Relevance:** As the standard covers marine coatings, rust prevention and treatment spray, the new limits can impact the industry.

# Tier II countries







# China

Phthalates: Four types of phthalates including DIBP, DBP, BBP and DEHP added as restricted substances.

On 29 June 2024, China's State Administration of Market Regulation (SAMR) added the first amendments to RoHS standard, titled "GB/T 26572- 2011 Requirements of Concentration Limits for Certain Restricted Substances in Electrical and Electronic Products", adding 4 types of phthalates as restricted substances:

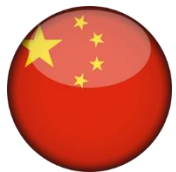
- Diisobutyl phthalate (DIBP)
- Dibutyl phthalate (DBP)
- Benzyl butyl phthalate (BBP)
- Bis(2-ethylhexyl) phthalate (DEHP)

The concentration limit for those products are settled at  $\leq 0.1\%$ .

**Timeline:** The limitation applies from 1 January 2026.

**Relevance:** Diisobutyl phthalate (DIBP) and Dibutyl phthalate (DBP) are commonly used as a plasticizer, notably in adhesive and sealants, paints and coatings but also varnishes. Benzyl butyl phthalate (BBP) is also a plasticizer used in PVC, adhesives and sealant, but also rubber and varnishes. Bis(2-ethylhexyl) phthalate (DEHP) is a plasticizer used in flexible PVC, electrical cables and wiring and various kind of building materials.

You can find the amendments [here](#) (in Chinese and English)



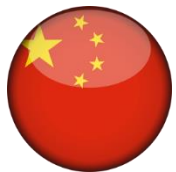
# China

## Antimony and related products: exports controls implemented in China

On 15 August 2024, the Chinese Ministry of Commerce (MoC) and the General Administration of Customs of China (GACC) jointly issued Announcement No. 33 of 2024 to implement export controls on antimony and related products.

**Timeline:** The control measures apply from 15 September 2024.

**Relevance:** Antimony is a chemical element that is commonly used in industries such as electronics, metallurgy, and batteries. It has various applications, including in flame retardants, lead-acid batteries, and in the production of semiconductors, impacting the industry equipment.



# China

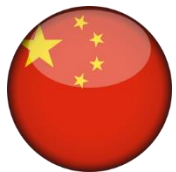
## Hazardous substance group in electrical and electronic products: recommended national standard publication and mandatory standard consultation

On 29 September 2024, China's State Administration for Market Regulation (SAMR) and Standardization Administration of China (SAC) jointly released a recommended national standard (GB/T 44652-2024), which establishes requirements of declaration for hazardous substance (HS)/hazardous substance group (HSG) in electrical and electronic products (EEP). It applies to electrical and electronic products (EEP), such as consumer electronics, appliances, industrial machinery, and more, focusing on hazardous substances (HS) (e.g., lead, mercury) or hazardous substance groups (HSG) that may affect human health or the environment. The standard specifies what information manufacturers must disclose about hazardous substances in their products. Being a "recommended national standard" (indicated by the GB/T prefix), compliance may not be mandatory unless referenced by other legal or regulatory frameworks. However, adherence to such standards can be necessary for market entry, certification, or regulatory inspections.

China's Ministry of Industry and Information Technology (MIIT) is also currently asking for public opinions on a potential mandatory standard on "Requirements for restricted use of hazardous substances in electrical and electronic products". The deadline for submitting opinions is 18 January 2025.

**Timeline:** The recommended standard comes into effect on 29 September 2024.

**Relevance:** Companies that manufacture or sell electrical and electronic products in China will need to review and adapt their documentation, labelling, and material declarations to comply with GB/T 44652-2024.



# China

## Inventory of Existing Chemical Substances in China: updates

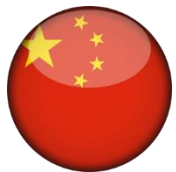
On 25 November 2024, China's Ministry of Ecology and Environment (MEE) announced the addition of 36 substances to the Inventory of Existing Chemical Substances in China (IECSC).

- Notice I: 30 substances previously registered under the Measures on Environmental Management of New Chemical Substances (MEP Order No. 7, 2010) are now listed as existing chemical substances in China. These are exempt from new chemical registration under MEE Order No. 12 unless used for purposes beyond their permitted uses, in which case new usage registration is required.
- Notice II: 6 substances proposed for public consultation in September 2024 have been added to the IECSC. These substances meet criteria for regulation as existing chemical substances, exempting them from new registration requirements under MEE Order No. 12.

**Timeline:** The update entered into force right after the publication of the notices.

**Relevance:** As the industry uses, transports, and handles such chemicals, new classification could impact the entire supply chain.

You can find the details of the notice [here](#) and [here](#) (in Chinese)



# China

## Hazardous Chemicals Safety: Draft law in China

On 21 December 2024, China's draft law on hazardous chemicals safety was submitted to the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress (NPCSC) for its first reading. This marks a critical step in formalising the law, which aims to replace State Council Decree 591 and establish a comprehensive safety management framework for hazardous chemicals.

Key discussion points include lifecycle safety management (Emphasis on enhancing safety measures across production, storage, use, operation, and transportation) and industry upgrades (focusing on professional skill development, equipment modernization, and phasing out outdated facilities).

The draft is in the deliberation stage, requiring three readings before moving to voting and eventual promulgation.

**Timeline:** The law is expected to undergo rigorous deliberation and revision, with final enactment anticipated by 2028 under the current legislative term. It represents a significant advancement in preventing and mitigating hazardous chemical-related accidents in China.

**Relevance:** As the industry uses, transports, and handles such materials, new laws on the topic could impact the entire supply chain.



# Japan

## PFOA: phased-in ban on PFOA isomers, their salts and PFOA-related compounds implemented in Japanese Law

On 10 July 2024, Japan announced the revision of the Enforcement Ordinance of the Chemical Substance Control Law (CSCL), implementing a phased ban on PFOA isomers, their salts, and related compounds. This change follows the decision of the Stockholm Convention to eliminate these substances. Key amendments include:

- PFOA isomers and their salts will be classified as Class 1 Specified Chemical Substances, with PFOA-related compounds. This designation will prohibit their manufacture, import, and use, except for "essential uses."
- Importing products containing PFOA-related compounds will be banned. Affected items include water-repellent textiles, defoaming agents, antifouling agents, textile protectants, fire extinguishers, and floor wax.

**Timeline:** Classification, prohibitions and limitations will apply from 10 January 2025.

**Relevance:** PFOA-related compounds, which are types of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), can be found in a variety of consumer products and industrial applications like stain- and water-resistant textiles, electronics and semiconductors but also floor wax and polish.

You can find [here](#) the official document (in Japanese)



# Japan

## Poly(oxyethylene) nonylphenyl ether: new classification under Chemical Substance Control Law

On 30 July 2024, the Japanese Ministries of Health, Labour and Welfare (MHLW), Economy, Trade and Industry (METI), and Environment (MOE) published the final draft of the designation of poly(oxyethylene) nonylphenyl ether (NPE) as a Class II Specified Chemical Substance under the Chemical Substance Control Law (CSCL). A public consultation was open on the topic until the 30 August 2024.

As part of the new designations, producers and importers will need to report both estimated and actual production/import quantities, and companies manufacturing water-based detergents containing NPE will be required to follow guidelines to prevent environmental pollution.

Additionally, packaging and shipping documents for NPE products will need to display specific information to mitigate contamination risks.

**Timeline:** The designation is expected to be finalized in September 2024 with new compliance measures set to take effect in April 2025.

**Relevance:** Poly(oxyethylene) nonylphenyl ether (NPE) is used in paints and coating, oil and gas but also detergents and cleaning agents.

You can find the draft proposal [here](#) (in Japanese).



# Japan

## Dechlorane Plus and UV-328: ban and new classification under Chemical Substance Control Law

On 7 November 2024, Japan announced its willingness to amend Class I Specific Chemical Substances of the Chemical Substance Control Law (CSCL) to include Dechlorane Plus and UV-328. This category under the CSCL includes substances that are considered highly hazardous to human health or the environment. Chemicals in this category are subject to strict regulation, including limitations on their manufacture, import, and use.

**Timeline:** Japan enacted the ban on UV-328 and Dechlorane Plus, which will start on 18 February 2025. The Cabinet Order is to designate an application under which Dechlorane Plus is permitted to be used exceptionally until 26 February 2030.

**Relevance:** Dechlorane Plus is a flame retardant used in various products, including electronics, plastics, and textiles, to prevent fires. UV-328 is a UV stabilizer used to protect materials like plastics, paints, and coatings from degradation caused by exposure to sunlight.





# South Korea

## K-REACH: implementation rules amended

On 5 August 2024 South Korea's Ministry of Environment (MoE) recently notified WTO of the draft amendments to K-REACH implementation rules, which introduces clearer conditions for data submission exemptions and new criteria for registration exemptions for chemicals derived from recycled materials. Key details include:

**1) Data Submission Exemptions** (partially or fully waived)

- Registration results for similar substances are already submitted.
- Toxicity assessment results are published by foreign entities or international organizations.
- The MOE identifies cases where proof is unnecessary, as specified through official announcements.

**2) Registration Exemptions for Recycled Chemicals.** Applicants must submit documents proving the recycled origin of the materials, such as:

- Certificates of industrial waste emission reports, waste management plans, or waste recycling business licenses.
- Approvals for waste recycling facilities or reports on waste treatment processes. Supplementary documents can include recycling process descriptions, intermediate product documentation, or evidence of prior registration.

**Timeline:** The proposal entered in force on 10 October 2024.

**Relevance:** Registered substances (some of which are used by the industry) may undergo risk assessments, potentially resulting in restrictions or bans if hazards are identified. Hazardous substances may be designated as Priority Controlled Substances (PCS), requiring stricter controls. Periodic reviews ensure substances meet updated safety standards, while registration supports effective supply chain communication for workplace safety and compliance.

You can find the full list [here](#) (in Korean).



# South Korea

K-REACH: 17,502 substances pre-registered

On 16 October 2024, South Korea's Ministry of Environment (MoE) published the updated list of pre-registered substances under K-REACH, with a total of 247,669 pre-registration applications submitted by stakeholders for 17,502 chemical substances, of which 77 are Carcinogenic, Mutagenic, or Reproductive toxicants substances. About 8.9% of the pre-registered substances are manufactured or imported over 1,000t/y. 3,017 substances were pre-registered with a maximum tonnage band within 100-1,000t/y, accounting for about 17.6 pre-registered substances.

As a reminder, under K-REACH, pre-registered substances are granted a grace period to manufacture/import chemicals before the corresponding phase-in registration deadline. Corresponding registration deadlines are set as below:

- >1,000t/y; or designated 364 CMRs above 1t/y: by 31 December 2021
- 100-1,000t/y: by 31 December 2024
- 10-100t/y: by 31 December 2027
- 1-10t/y: by 31 December 2030

**Timeline:** Pre-registration should be completed before 31 December 2024.

**Relevance:** Registered substances (some of which are used by the industry) may undergo risk assessments, potentially resulting in restrictions or bans if hazards are identified. Hazardous substances may be designated as Priority Controlled Substances (PCS), requiring stricter controls. Periodic reviews ensure substances meet updated safety standards, while registration supports effective supply chain communication for workplace safety and compliance.

You can find the full list [here](#) (in Korean).



# South Korea

## POPs: draft updates for Annexes 1 and 2 of the Regulations on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) Classification and Specific Exemptions

On 13 September 2024, South Korea's Ministry of Environment (MoE) published draft updates to the Regulations on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) Classification and Specific Exemptions. These updates focus on revisions to Annex 1 (which lists controlled POPs) and Annex 2 (which clarifies exemption criteria).

The changes will refine the identification of POPs, including specifying chemical names and CAS numbers for some substances previously listed under general terms or omitted. Notably, POPs present as trace impurities in products or during manufacturing processes will not be classified as POPs unless a certain threshold, like in short-chain chlorinated paraffins, is exceeded.

The updates to Annex 2 further clarify the criteria and deadlines for exemptions from restrictions based on environmental and health considerations.

**Timeline:** The updates are expected to take effect immediately after publication (unknown date), with certain provisions related to perfluorohexane sulfonic acid (PFHxS) and the Minamata Convention contingent on international decisions.

**Relevance:** Many anti-fouling paints, which are commonly used in the industry to prevent the growth of algae and other organisms, contain chemicals that may be classified as POPs.

You can find the draft updates [here](#) (in Korean).



# South Korea

## Restricted and Prohibited Chemicals: updated list

On 26 September 2024, through the Notice No. 2024-612, South Korea's Ministry of Environment (MoE) published the proposed draft updates to the Designation of Restricted Chemicals and Prohibited Chemicals. Based on the hazard assessment results under K-REACH (made available on 4 October 2024), lead compounds and methylene chloride, which are highly likely to be used for specific purposes, are proposed to be designated as restricted substances.

Additionally, chrysotile, which has already been completely banned from handling under other laws, is to be adjusted from restricted chemical to prohibited chemical.

**Timeline:** The updates are expected to take effect immediately after publication (unknown date).

**Relevance:** Many anti-fouling paints, which are commonly used in the industry to prevent the growth of algae and other organisms, contain chemicals that may be classified as POPs.

You can find the draft updates [here](#) (in Korean).



# South Korea

## Korean Chemical Hazard Assessment Results: 8 Chemicals identified as toxic

On 5 December 2024, South Korea's NICS updated hazard assessments for new and existing chemicals under K-REACH to enhance safety.

### 1. New Chemical Substances (Annex 1):

- Hazard assessments for 53 newly registered substances (reviewed from April to July 2024) have been added, with 6 identified as toxic including:
  - 354-34-7: Identified as Trifluoroiodomethane, a halomethane used in various chemical applications.
  - 1483-72-3: Known as Diphenyliodonium chloride, a compound utilized in organic synthesis as an oxidizing agent.
- Updates were made to the chemical names and hazard information of 19 substances previously listed, improving accuracy and compliance.

### 2. Existing Chemical Substances (Annex 2):

- Hazard assessments for 33 previously registered substances have been added, with 2 substances identified as toxic:
  - 98-82-8: Cumene (also known as Isopropylbenzene), a volatile organic compound used primarily as an intermediate in the production of phenol and acetone. It is a flammable liquid with potential health hazards upon inhalation or ingestion.
  - 98-54-4: 4-tert-Butylphenol, an organic compound utilized in the manufacturing of resins, adhesives, and coatings. It appears as a white to pale yellow crystalline solid and poses risks such as skin irritation and environmental hazards, particularly to aquatic life.

**Timeline:** The updates are expected to take effect immediately after publication.

**Relevance:** The assessed chemicals are expected to be designated as toxic chemicals and subject to certain control within South Korea.

You can find the amendments [here](#) (in Korean)



# Brazil

## Brazil REACH: Regulation adopted

Brazil enacted a chemical management law, known as "Brazil REACH" (Law No. 15,022), aimed at regulating the use, production, and import of chemical substances.

The law establishes a National Inventory of Chemical Substances and sets frameworks for assessing and controlling chemical risks to protect public health and the environment. The law applies broadly to chemicals used, produced, or imported in Brazil but excludes certain irrelevant categories. Manufacturers and importers must register chemicals exceeding 1 ton per year in a new National Registry of Chemical Substances. This applies to individual chemicals, mixtures, and polymers (except low-risk ones).

Chemicals in the registry will undergo prioritisation for environmental and health risk evaluations. Based on findings, authorities may impose restrictions, require special authorization, or prohibit certain substances.

**Timeline:** The government will take up to three years to create the inventory system. Companies will then have three years to register existing substances, with final deadlines falling between November 2027 and November 2030. The Brazilian government has 180 days to issue detailed regulations for implementing the law.

**Relevance:** Brazil REACH brings Brazil in line with international chemical safety standards, such as the European Union's REACH system. Businesses exporting to Brazil should evaluate their chemical products and prepare for upcoming registration and compliance requirements.

You can find full law [here](#) (in Portuguese).

# contact.

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