

REACH Compliance Statement and SVHC List

On January 23, 2024 the ECHA added five substances to the SVHC (Substances of Very High Concern) Candidate list. It now includes 240 substances. None of the new substances are intentionally added to any SEKISUI Voltek products.

REACH is a European Community Regulation on chemical and their safe use (EC 1907/2006). It deals with the Registration, Evaluation, Authorization and Restriction of Chemicals. The new European law became effective on June 1, 2007. REACH is designed to improve the protection of human health and the environment through the better and earlier identification of the intrinsic properties of chemical substances. At the same time, innovative capability and competitiveness of the EU chemicals industry should be enhanced. The benefits of the REACH system will come gradually, as more and more substances are phased into REACH. SEKISUI Voltek supports the goals of REACH.

REACH deals primarily with substances, defined in REACH as “a chemical element and its compound in the natural state or obtained by any manufacturing process, including additives necessary to reserve its stability and any impurity deriving from the process used, but excluding any solvent which may be separated without affecting the stability of the substance or changing its composition” (Article 3.1 REACH).

Volara®, Volextra® and VolaraBLOCK® are considered Articles, as defined in REACH [as “an object which during production is given a special shape, surface or design which determines its function to a greater degree than does its chemical composition” (Article 3.3 REACH)]. Periodically, a list of SVHC will be issued. Articles containing SVHC's must be registered.

MARKETING BULLETIN

January 2024

Because we cannot anticipate or control the many different conditions under which this information and our products may be used, we do not guarantee the applicability of the accuracy of this information or the suitability of our products in any given situation. Users of our products should make their own tests to determine the suitability of each product for their particular purposes. The products discussed are sold without warranty, either expressed or implied, and buyer assumes all responsibility for loss or damage arising from the handling and use of our products, whether done in accordance with directions or not. Also, statements concerning the possible use of our products are not intended as recommendations to use our products in the infringement of any patent.

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Any substance on the Candidate List requires manufacturers and importers to notify their customers of the presence of any Substances of Very High Concern (SVHC) in their products exceeding 0.1% by weight and provide instructions on safe use of the product.

On December 19, 2012, the ECHA updated the Candidate List of SVHC's which at the time contained 138 substances. At that time, Diazene-1,2-dicarboxamide (C,C'-azodi(formamide)), Azodicarbonamide, CAS #123-77-3, was added to its candidate list of "Substances of Very High Concern" (SVHC). The maximum threshold concentration level is for this material 0.1%.

Azodicarbonamide is used as a foaming agent in SEKISUI Voltek's Volara® manufacturing process. The process is designed to completely activate the azodicarbonamide. Any remaining unactivated foaming agent is minimal in Volara®. Further, there is no established evaluation test method to measure the residual concentration. Our parent company, SEKISUI CHEMICAL, is working on preparing a quantitative analysis of this residual substance, however such analysis will require an extended amount of time to develop. Once the test method has been established, our products will be tested for compliance, and we will inform you of any issues related to SVHC compliance.

To conclude, the azodicarbonamide has not moved on from the SVHC list, thus all Volara®, Volextra® and VolaraBLOCK® are Annex XIV and Annex XVII compliant.

The SVHC list was updated on January 23, 2024 by ECHA and now includes 240 substances on the Candidate List. Five substances were added to the list. The substances are:

- Oligomerisation and alkylation reaction products of 2-phenylpropene and phenol
- Bumetrizole (UV-326) (CAS 3896-11-5)
- 2-(dimethylamino)-2-[(4-methylphenyl)methyl]-1-[4-(morpholin-4-yl)phenyl]butan-1-one (CAS 119344-86-4)
- 2-(2H-benzotriazol-2-yl)-4-(1,1,3,3-tetramethylbutyl)phenol (UV-329) (CAS 3147-75-9)
- 2,4,6-tri-tert-butylphenol (CAS 732-26-3)

The Candidate List including the new substances which ECHA added to this list, is available on the ECHA's website: <http://echa.europa.eu/web/guest/candidate-list-table>.

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