

# REACH

## **What is REACH?**

REACH stands for the Registration, Evaluation and Authorization of Chemicals. REACH will involve thousands of chemicals and materials that are sold in the EU. The purpose of REACH is to increase knowledge about chemical substances marketed in the EU, and their uses, and to ensure that they are properly managed. The REACH regulation will enter into force in June 2007, although most specific regulatory components are delayed until June 2008.

As a matter of policy, 3M supports and promotes the goals of life cycle management, product safety, sustainable development, and effective risk communication to employees and customers.

## **3M and REACH**

Because REACH will involve thousands of different materials and products, 3M has been monitoring the progress of the REACH regulation from the beginning. The company has key personnel around the world engaged to ensure the company's compliance and that this compliance is as seamless as possible to our customers.

Although REACH is a EU regulation, it applies to goods coming into the region from all over the world – making the law a global compliance matter. Our company has developed an action plan to meet, with minimal product disruption, the requirements and timetables included in the regulation.

Further details of REACH will be clarified when the REACH technical Guidance Documents are finalized. 3M will continue to monitor the development of these documents and include any additionally identified activities to be compliant in its action plan.

3M Recognizes that ongoing communications with its customers and suppliers about certain aspects of the REACH regulation will be important and will initiate downstream and upstream communications in due time.

## **Links:**

**The REACH Regulation:** [http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/site/en/oj/2006/l\\_396/l\\_39620061230en00010849.pdf](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/site/en/oj/2006/l_396/l_39620061230en00010849.pdf)

**Amendment of Dangerous Substances Directive due to REACH:** [http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/site/en/oj/2006/l\\_396/l\\_39620061230en08500856.pdf](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/site/en/oj/2006/l_396/l_39620061230en08500856.pdf)

**ECB – REACH:** <http://ecb.jrc.it/REACH/>

**European Commission – Enterprise & Industry:**  
[http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/reach/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/reach/index_en.htm)

**European Commission on Environment:**  
[http://ec.europa.eu/environment/chemicals/reach/reach\\_intro.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/environment/chemicals/reach/reach_intro.htm)