

Connector Manufacturers' Group

Customer Information: Submission of the Chromium VI CMG application for authorisation

Dear Sir / Madam,

The purpose of this letter is to inform you of the progress of the Connector Manufacturers' Group (CMG)'s work related to the application for Authorisation for the use of substances containing Chromium (VI) in the REACH Authorisation List (Annex XIV), which prohibits the use of these substances after the deadline of 21st September 2017.

The members of the CMG who submitted the application are:

Esterline Souriau – Champagné (Fr) (Main applicant)
Amphenol Socapex – Thyez (Fr)
Amphenol Limited – Whitstable (UK)
ITT Cannon - Weinstadt-Beutelsbach (GmbH)
Connecteurs Electriques Deutsch – Evreux (Fr)
Tyco Electronics UK Ltd – Hastings (UK)

The application for authorisation on the use of Chromium VI compounds covers three uses:

- **Use 1 : Passivation of cadmium**

“Industrial use of a mixture containing hexavalent chromium compounds for the conversion of cadmium coated circular and rectangular connectors in order to achieve a higher level of performance than the requirements of international standards as well as to withstand harsh environments and high safety applications (such as in the military, aeronautic, aerospace, mining, offshore and nuclear industries or for the application in safety devices for road vehicles, rolling stock and vessels).”

- **Use 2 : Other passivation**

“Industrial use of a mixture containing hexavalent chromium compounds in conversion coating and passivation of circular and rectangular connectors in order to meet the requirements of international standards and special requirements of industries subject to harsh environments.”

- **Use 3 : Etching**

“Industrial use of a mixture containing chromium trioxide for the etching of composite connectors used by industries subject to harsh environments, to mainly ensure adhesive deposit to meet the requirements of international standards.”

On the 22nd February 2016 the CMG submitted a joint application for authorisation for the use of chromium VI compounds beyond the Sunset Date, to ECHA (European Chemicals Agency). This application was subject to a public consultation process from April 27th to June 22nd 2016 before being evaluated by members of the ECHA's Evaluation Committees.



No public comments were received, however requests for additional information were made by the Committees to the CMG in order to gain more insight about the dossier.

In mid-October 2016, the Committees provided opinions on the dossier and the CMG members agreed on not issuing comments regarding these opinions.

The evaluating Committees agreed on granting the review periods requested by the CMG consortium, without additional conditions, i.e.:

- 12 years for Use 1 (Cadmium passivation)
- 7 years for Use 2 (other passivation)
- 4 years for Use 3 (etching)

These opinions, available on the ECHA website¹, **will soon be conveyed to the European Commission for validation (expected around 3rd quarter of 2017)** and a publication in the Official Journal of the European Union is expected at the end of 2017- 1st quarter of 2018.

Please note that even if the validation of the European Commission is expected beyond the "sunset date" of September 21st 2017, the uses of the CMG will still be covered by the application during this transitional period.

We will get back to you to update you on developments.

We remain at your disposal if you require any further information. Please accept the assurances of our highest consideration.



Michel ALBRIEUX
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Amphenol Limited**



Thierry QUILLET
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Achim Raad
ITT Cannon



Thierry CASSAR
**Connecteurs Electriques Deutsch &
Tyco Electronics UK Ltd**



Gilles RIZZO
Acsiel

PS: For more information, please contact Gilles Rizzo, coordinator of the CMG or one of the signatories of this letter.

¹ Consultation numbers 0072-01 to 0072-07, available via the following link :
<https://echa.europa.eu/fr/addressing-chemicals-of-concern>

