Legal Insight

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Keeping up with REACH and Other Chemical Legislation

Developments surrounding chemical legislation in the EU and abroad mean that all companies manufacturing or importing chemical substances must be increasingly alert and pro-active.

The second REACH registration deadline is approaching all too quickly and is set for 31 May 2013. As a result, companies which import substances in the '100 tonnes or more per year' band have very little time remaining to organise themselves for submitting all the necessary data to ECHA. It is estimated that there are at least 2300 substances which will have to be registered for the first time in 2013.

In addition, ECHA is updating its Guidance on Information Requirements and Chemical Safety Assessment following the results of two REACH Implementation Projects on Nanomaterials.

Manufacturers, importers and distributors of substances of very high concern will note that towards the end of last year ECHA added twenty substances to the Candidate List, which now contains seventy-three substances. Annex XIV to the REACH Regulation which makes certain Candidate List substances subject to Authorisation, is regularly being updated leading to increasing legal obligations for affected companies.

Reflecting the regulatory developments in the EU, Russia and India intend to adopt a number of new, key technical regulations. Last year China, Japan and Korea updated their chemical management regulations. This represents a significant increase in the legal and regulatory framework confronting companies which operate internationally. Given the increasing tendency towards multi-regional approaches in global notifications and registrations, affected companies in the Asian chemical market will increasingly need integrated international advice.

In response to this raft of legal and regulatory developments summarised above, our K&L Gates Regulatory experts are speaking in a number of conferences to address these topical issues:

Chemspec Europe, 13 - 14 June 2012, Barcelona

- Partner Vanessa Edwards of K&L Gates London speaking on *The REACH Authorisation Process: From Candidate List to Annex XIV*
- Other topics covered at this conference include: SIEF management; REACH Evaluation process; the new EU Biocides Regulation; PIC Regulation; recent trends in Korean Regulatory Affairs and updates on Chemical Control Laws in China and Turkey
- Other speakers include: Neil Harvey of the Chemical Industries Association; Ah-Reum Seo of the Chemservice Asia Co., Ltd and Xiaojun Ge from the China National Information Center
- No registration fee required

For more information and to register <u>click here</u>.

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REACH: Legal Implications & Supply Chain Strategies, 26 - 27 June 2012, Brussels

- Partner Vanessa Edwards and associate Raminta Dereskeviciute of K&L Gates London are presenting on *The Enforcement of REACH-like legislation beyond Europe, including China and South Korea*
- Other topics include: Enforcement of REACH within Europe; Progress on the Candidate List of Substances of Very High Concern; Recommendations on how to prepare applications for REACH authorisation and the legal requirements for safety data sheets
- Other speakers include: Graham Willmott, Head of Unit on REACH in DG Enterprise; several contributors from ECHA and the Commission, including the Director of Registration at ECHA, Christel Musset; Mercedes Vinas from CEFIC and Hugo Waeterschoot from Eurometaux
- A discount on the registration fee is offered to those who register by 20 April 2012

For more information and to register <u>click here</u>.

The rapid developments in the regulations and the impending REACH registration deadline require companies to ensure that they have up-to-date summaries of the legal and regulatory implications. The above conferences provide an excellent opportunity for companies to update their knowledge and explore a commercial response to the increasing obligations which confront them.

If you have any questions regarding the above please contact:

Vanessa Edwards Partner London vanessa.edwards@klgates.com +44.(0).20.7360.8293

Raminta Dereskeviciute Associate London raminta.dereskeviciute@klgates.com +44.(0).20.7360.8264

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