

REACH

1. Definition

REACH (Registration, Evaluation, Authorization of Chemicals) is a European regulation (1907/2006 of 18 December, 2006) which provides a framework for the registration of certain chemical substances in Europe and which came into effect on 1 June, 2007.

2. An explanation of the rules

The **REACH regulations** require suppliers to communicate information about substances in their products that have been identified as substances of very high concern (SVHC). According to Article 33.1 of REACH, article suppliers must report to the recipient any SVHC contained in articles at a concentration greater than 0.1% weight by weight (w/w). Suppliers must provide sufficient information as to ensure the product is used safely including, at the very least, the name of the SVHC. All substances identified as being a SVHC are listed in what is called the Candidate List (available on the European Chemicals Agency's (ECHA) website: www.echa.europa.eu/candidate-list-table), to which new substances are usually added twice a year. If a product contains a newly identified SVHC at levels higher than 0.1% (w/w), suppliers must inform recipients of this product as soon as the substance is included on the Candidate list.

3. The situation at GYS

Our products do not contain any SVHC with the exception of our silver and brass solder rods (part number: 047235 / 047242 / 047815 / 047303), which contain between 1 - 4% boric acid (CAS No. 10043-35-3).

RoHS

1. Definition

RoHS in EEE (Restriction of Hazardous Substances in Electrical and Electronic Equipment) is a European directive (2002/95/CE) which aims to limit the use of certain hazardous substances in electrical and electronic equipment, known as EEE. Since its adoption, the RoHS directive has been revised. Firstly in 2011 (2011/65/EU, RoHS 2), then again in 2015 (2015/863/EU, RoHS 3), which came into effect on 22 July, 2019.

2. An explanation of the rules

Companies which sell equipment on the European market that falls within the scope of this directive must comply with the restrictions that it sets out, particularly those regarding CE marking and the establishment of a compliance file. The substances subject to restriction are listed in Appendix II of the ROHS directive. The maximum allowable concentration of each substance in homogeneous materials is indicated by weight on the list. By 'homogeneous material', we mean:

- A material whose composition is perfectly uniform
- A material made up of a combination of materials that cannot be divided or separated into different materials by means of mechanical actions, such as unscrewing, cutting, grinding or abrasive processes.

3. The situation at GYS

All our products comply with RoHS directives (2011/65/EU and 2015/863/EU).