

Hagen, July 15, 2025

Declaration on the information obligations for suppliers of products in accordance with Article 33 of Regulation (EC) No. 1907/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council of December 18, 2006 concerning the **Registration, Evaluation, Authorization, and Restriction of Chemical Substances (REACH)**, published on December 30, 2006 in the EU Official Journal 396/1.

Dear Sir or Madam,

Thank you for your inquiry regarding compliance with the information requirements for substances of very high concern (so-called "candidate list substances" or SVHC substances) in articles pursuant to Art. 33 of Regulation (EC) No. 1907/2006 (REACH). REACH imposes various obligations on our company in its role as a "downstream user" and "supplier of an article" to pass on information along the supply chain. Unfortunately, many of those affected are often unclear about what these information obligations actually mean. In some cases, this leads to companies along the supply chain requesting each other to confirm the "REACH compliance" of products, to request a complete list of product ingredients, and to fill out the relevant documents. However, such declarations are not required by the REACH Regulation and do not fulfill the prescribed communication obligations. They merely cause considerable effort for most companies, but do not provide legal certainty or any other real benefit for those involved. We would therefore like to inform you about the information you will receive from us as a "supplier of an article" in accordance with the requirements of the REACH Regulation.

Our duty to provide information in accordance with Art. 33 REACH

You purchase blank steel from us. This product is classified as an article in the REACH Regulation.¹ Article 33(1) REACH requires the supplier of an article containing a substance on the ECHA candidate list that meets the criteria in Article 57 and is identified in accordance with Article 59(1) in a concentration greater than 0.1% by weight (w/w), to provide the customer with the information available to them for the safe use of the article, but at least to indicate the name of the substance concerned.

We will, of course, comply with this obligation in all relevant cases in order to ensure that our customers can continue to handle our high-quality products with the usual confidence.

¹ Art. 3 No. 3: Product: An object which during production is given a specific shape, surface or design which to a greater extent than determines its function to a greater extent than its chemical composition.



In accordance with Art. 33 of the REACH Regulation, we hereby inform you that lead (Pb) was added to the candidate list of SVHC substances at the end of June 2018 and therefore request that you take note of this.

Our products do not contain lead (Pb) as an alloy component in excess of the 0.1% threshold.

The ECHA's "candidate list" of substances of very high concern is available on its website at <http://echa.europa.eu/candidate-list-table>.

We will inform you of any further changes in accordance with the legal requirements and will coordinate appropriate measures with you on a case-by-case basis. In view of our wide range of products and the fact that we are also dependent on our suppliers' compliance with their legal obligations, you will certainly understand that we cannot make any further legally binding statements.

On the procedures and implementation of REACH in our company

Through regular contact with our suppliers, we will be informed about proposed substances for the candidate list, public consultation procedures, updates to the candidate list, which now comprises 247 substances (last updated on January 21, 2025), and the relevance of SVHCs.

By following the procedure outlined in this letter in the practical implementation of our information obligations under the REACH Regulation, we are not only complying with the legal requirements, but also with the recommendations issued to us on request by the Federal Ministry of Economics and the WSM Wirtschaftsverband Stahl- und Metallverarbeitung e.V. (German Steel and Metal Processing Association).

We have appointed a REACH representative in our company who defines our company's role, supports and monitors the implementation of our obligations, and is regularly informed about the latest developments relating to the new chemicals legislation. If you have any further questions about REACH in our company, please contact our REACH representative:

Plant Manager Andernach & Bleck

This declaration refers exclusively to the product supplied by us. Changes to the product during further processing are not covered by this declaration.

With kind regards

Andernach & Bleck