

## **SASFORREACH Consortium**

### **SIEF Information Letter 1 Synthetic Amorphous Silica (SAS)**

#### **Introduction**

Your company has pre-registered Silica, EINECS # 231-545-4, CAS # 7631-86-9 and therefore is listed on the ECHA REACH-IT system.

Evonik Degussa GmbH has agreed to act as lead registrant of the SASFORREACH Consortium. The large number of pre-registrants (over 2.400) makes communication complicated. Your contact details, therefore, were provided to Patrick Wellmann of Dr. Knoell Consult, Leverkusen, Germany, who handles the operational work of the Consortium (e.g. contact with interested companies of the Silica SIEF).

This Information Letter is intended to inform you about the SASFORREACH Consortium as well as the status of the registration for Synthetic Amorphous Silica (SAS) and to invite participation in the Joint Submission of the Consortium.

#### **Consortium Purpose**

To comply with the REACH Regulation, an extensive technical dossier about each substance must be submitted to the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA, Helsinki). For nearly 20 years the Consortium Members have worked together to develop environmental, health & safety data on synthetic amorphous silica (SAS) and have participated in a number of International Safety Programmes.

These companies decided to form a consortium with the purpose of preparing the SAS registration dossier for a joint submission of data according to Article 6 of the REACH Regulation.

#### **Status of Registration**

The comprehensive registration dossier for the substance synthetic amorphous silica, covering the data requirements of Annexes VII – X of the Regulation, has already been successfully submitted to the ECHA, Helsinki, by the Consortium's Lead Registrant Evonik Degussa GmbH. The dossier was approved by the European Chemicals Agency in February 2009 and the lead registrant has received a registration number.

#### **SASFORREACH Consortium Member Companies**

Albemarle Europe, Merck Performance Materials SAS, BASF SE, Cabot Corp., Evonik Resource Efficiency GmbH, Grace GmbH & Co. KG, IQESIL S.A., PPG Industries Chemicals, PQ Corporation, Solvay S.A., Clariant Produkte (Deutschland) GmbH, Wacker Chemie AG, Zeochem AG

## Substance

For this registration, the definition of SAS (CAS#:7631-86-9, 112945-52-5, 112926-00-8) covers silicon dioxide (amorphous silica; silica gel; precipitated Silica; colloidal silica) from various processes.

1. pyrogenic route, manufactured by high temperature hydrolysis of halogenated silanes or silicon organic compounds,
2. precipitated route, using sodium silicate solution and sulfuric acid as preferred raw materials
3. gel process, using sodium silicate and sulfuric acid as preferred raw materials
4. Colloidal process, using sodium silicate and H+ exchange resins

SAS forms produced by different processes may be included in the Joint registration of SAS if sufficient evidence can be provided by the supplier in his company individual registration dossier part on the sameness of the substance, in particular on the crystallinity through XRD (detection limit of crystalline phases below 0.3 wt%) and on an ICP impurity pattern. In addition a Si<sup>29</sup> NMR and IR UVIS are required for SAS.

## Options to cooperate

The SASFORREACH Consortium invites every party interested in the registration of synthetic amorphous silica as defined above to participate in the Joint Submission of the Consortium. The Consortium will provide a complete registration package, including a Letter of Access to the technical part of the dossier (parts 4 – 13) and the Chemical Safety Report at a reasonable cost. Please bear in mind that the Letter of Access refers to an already approved registration dossier.

Any party interested in obtaining access to the Joint Submission should follow the guidance on how to get access to the data/dossier to register as a Joint Registrant, published on the webpage of the Consortium <http://www.reach-sas.org>.

What to do if you do not meet the definition criteria for synthetic amorphous silica?

We recommend that you try to get in contact with other Silica producer of the SIEF – and form another consortium or partnership thereof. You may also approach the self-appointed SIEF Facilitator.

With kind regards

SASFORREACH Consortium  
Patrick Wellmann

knoll Germany GmbH, Leverkusen, Germany

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Albemarle Europe, Merck Performance Materials SAS, BASF SE, Cabot Corp., Evonik Resource Efficiency GmbH, Grace  
GmbH & Co. KG, IQESIL S.A., PPG Industries Chemicals, PQ Corporation,  
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