NAVIGATING A NEW INDUSTRY STANDARD

REACH, the European regulation on chemicals and their safe use (EC 1907/2006) became effective in June 2007. Under REACH, substances must be registered with the European Chemical Agency (ECHA) if they are manufactured or imported in quantities of 1 tonne or more per year. REACH accommodates for substances that have been manufactured or imported in the last 15 years with a pre-registration procedure. Companies can pre-register their existing substances with ECHA. The goal is to identify other potential registrants with the same substance. For each existing substance, a Substance Information Exchange Forum (SIEF) brings together all manufacturers and importers who have pre-registered the same substance. This SIEF process is mandatory and comes with the obligation to share animal study data and to submit a joint registration dossier.

ENABLING YOUR REACH

While REACH sets standards and requirements, the road to compliance must be paved by the industry. Specifically, ECHA will not be involved in setting up the collaboration that the SIEF process requires. To help companies with the SIEF process, CEFIC and the German (VCI), French (UIC), Italian (Federchimica), British (CIA) and Spanish (FEIQUE) Chemical Associations founded ReachLink SA (Société Anonyme). ReachLink's mission is to provide the support that will facilitate your data sharing in the REACH registration process. With SIEFreach, ReachLink connects you with other potential registrants to accomplish REACH registration compliance.

SIEFREACH: THE MISSING LINK

SIEFreach is an IT platform that enables and manages your SIEF communication, collaboration and preparation of joint submission processes. REACH compliance can get complicated. SIEFreach brings ease of use and efficiency to the SIEF process:

- **A streamlined process:** exclusively focused on SIEF-related activities
- **A long-lasting solution:** the platform is guaranteed to be operational until at least 2018
- **Lower operational costs:** save an estimated 20% on overhead per substance

In developing SIEFreach, our goal was to create an industry-wide tool that is robust, comprehensive and easy to use. Major players in the chemical industry were consulted in designing the platform to ensure that SIEFreach provides all the functionalities you need:

- Seamless and transparent communication within your SIEF
- Easy data sharing
- Option to start substance sameness discussion after pre-registration (pre-SIEF)
- Possibility to present studies to relevant audiences as a data holder
- Support in cost sharing discussions
- Facilitation of preparation for joint submissions
- Simple tracking of all discussions and decisions about a substance during the SIEF life cycle
- Pre-defined SIEF user roles, each with specific responsibilities and secure access
- Controlled access and secured communication
- Confidential data processing and management (compliant with EU data privacy law)
- Elimination of duplication of effort thanks to a link with ECHA for the pre-registered data

Owned and managed by ReachLink, SIEFreach was developed by IBM, which is responsible for hosting and operating the platform.
SIEFREACH IN ACTION

- A 'non paying' section for your SIEF provides easy access to substance descriptions, an overview of SIEF participants and possibility to inform about available studies
- You can start sameness discussions (pre-SIEF)
- A status page gives a progress indicator (% completed), guiding you through the process
- Easy splitting and merging of SIEFs, if required
- Voting and polling capabilities support the decision making process
- 'Invited Users'-pages can take discussions off-line for a limited group of participants
- Daily back up of data ensures you don't have to worry about data loss
- A recovery system has the platform up and running within 24 hours in case of unforeseen events
- Processes and procedures are consistent for all SIEFs