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Customer Information on REACH Regulation

Dear Customers and Sales-Partners,

REACH (Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals) is a basic regulation pertaining to the new Chemicals Law of the European Community that aims at a European-wide standardization.

The REACH regulation, which came into force on 1/6/2007, stipulates that companies have to register a chemical substance in a central database if they produce this substance in quantities of more than a ton per year or if they intend to import it into the European Community in these quantities. Substances of very high concern are subject to authorisation.

For registration, a technical file is to be submitted to the REACH agency in Helsinki which contains details on the substance and information on the risk management measures to be taken. The requirements for information depend on the annual quantity produced and/or imported. Each registration bears a registration number and registration date. The registration of a substance also includes its associated use. Consequently, manufacturers and importers have to look into the risks of all types of use of which they are notified by the downstream users.

According to paragraph 3 No. 12, a downstream user is any individual or legal entity resident in the European Community who uses a substance as such or a preparation thereof as part of their industrial or commercial activities. Typical downstream users are companies that manufacture products by using substances or preparations. GMC-I Messtechnik GmbH is a downstream user by this definition. Downstream users who neither manufacture nor import substances are not obliged to perform a registration of substances.

We as a downstream user examine as to whether the use of the (registered) substances and preparations applied conforms to the use for intended purpose provided for by the supplier or manufacturer. If the use deviates from the details furnished by the supplier or manufacturer, we inform the supplier/manufacturer on the particular use so that the latter can arrange for it to be included in the registration and/or authorisation as being appropriate. Alternatively, the downstream user may evaluate the substance himself and prepare a Safety Report for the REACH agency.

We trust that this letter is conducive to clarifying our current corporate policy regarding this issue. We look forward to continuing our mutually fruitful and rewarding cooperation. Please feel free to contact us if you have any further queries.

Yours faithfully,
GMC-I Messtechnik GmbH