

SAFEGUARDS

CONSUMER GOODS AND RETAIL

CONSUMER PRODUCTS

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EU NOTIFIES THE ADDITION OF TEXTILE-CONTAINING PRODUCTS TO REACH RESTRICTION

The European Union (EU) is proposing to expand the restriction of nonylphenol ethoxylates to articles or parts of articles containing at least 80% textile fibres. If published in the Official Journal, the enforcement date will be at the end of 2020.

On 16 April 2015, the World Trade Organisation (WTO) circulated [Notification G/TBT/N/EU/280](#) from the EU to create a new Entry 46a for nonylphenol ethoxylates (NPEs, also known as NPEOs) under ANNEX XVII of REACH. The draft Commission Regulation would expand the current scope of restriction of NPEOs to include

- textile articles which consist of at least 80% textile fibres and
- other textile articles that contain a part that consists of at least 80% textile fibres

Under the proposal, the scope of such products are those which can reasonably be expected to be washed in water during their normal lifecycle and will cover unfinished, semi-finished and finished goods, including

- Accessories
- Clothing for people, toys and animals
- Interior textiles, fibres, yarn, fabrics and knitted panels

The proposed date of adoption will be the last quarter of 2015. The Regulation will enter into force on the 20th day after publication in the Official Journal and will be enforced 60 months thereafter (end of 2020).

Highlights of the draft Commission Regulation are summarised in Table 1.



TABLE 1.

DRAFT COMMISSION REGULATION TO CREATE NEW ENTRY 46A UNDER ANNEX XVII OF REACH					
ENTRY	SUBSTANCE	SCOPE	REQUIREMENT	DATE OF ADOPTION	DATE OF ENFORCEMENT
46a	Nonylphenol Ethoxylates (NPEOs)	Textile articles which can reasonably be washed in water during their normal life cycle.	≤ 100 mg/kg	Last quarter of 2015	60 Months after date of entry into force (end of 2020)
Exemption <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Second-hand textile articles • New textile articles manufactured exclusively from recycled textiles 					

Throughout our global network of laboratories, we are able to provide a range of services, including analytical testing and consultancy, for NPEOs in textile-containing articles for the EU and international markets. Please do not hesitate to contact us for further information.



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