



We create chemistry

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Product Information: *Synthetic Polymer Microparticle Restriction (EU REACH)*

Dear Valued Customer,

On September 25, 2023, the European Commission published regulation (EC) No 2023/2055 amending Annex XVII to Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006 concerning the Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals (REACH) with Entry No. 78 (Synthetic Polymer Microparticles, **SPMs** – formerly known as ‘intentionally added microplastics’) which entered into force on October 17, 2023.

This restriction introduces a ban on the placing on the market of SPMs with several derogations. For more detailed information, please consult the legal text directly (see link below).

The products listed below (as all typical plastics pellets/granules, flakes and powders) meet the definition of SPMs. If these products are processed in industrial facilities, they are derogated from the ban based on paragraph 4(a) of the respective restriction (“use at industrial sites”). To benefit from this derogation, reporting and information obligations for both the producer and the industrial downstream user must be fulfilled.

The specifics of the information and reporting requirements as well as explanations on the interpretation of the restriction have been compiled in a Q&A document by the EU commission and a guidance document on the reporting obligation have been prepared by ECHA (see the links below).

The requirements of the EU REACH SPM Restriction are subject to transition periods. The requirement for providing information and instructions for use and disposal applies 17 October 2025. The first reporting year is set for 2026, with a deadline of 31 May 2027. For plastic article manufacture the first reporting year is set for 2025 with a deadline of 31 May 2026.

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Please find more information on the SPM Restriction here:

[Link to the Legal Text of the SPM Restriction](#)

[Link to SPM Restriction - EU Commission News](#)

Explanatory guide [part 1 \(narrative\)](#), [part 2 \(questions & answers\)](#), and [part 3 \(annexes\)](#)

[Information on SPM Reporting](#)

And on the ECHA home page:

[Link to ECHA Homepage - Annex XVII](#) - [ECHA Hot Topic Microplastics](#)

This statement applies to the following product lines:

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Products made with recycled polymers as raw materials (products that feature 'RC' in their trade name):

Products of the above-mentioned product lines that feature 'RC' in their trade name contain components, ingredients, and/or raw materials that have been manufactured by a recycling process, which means that they are manufactured from end-of-life residue or waste material as feedstock. Waste as a raw material can exhibit fluctuating chemical composition and can contain significantly higher levels of contaminants of various and/or potentially unknown types. Therefore, also the products manufactured from waste through recycling processes must be expected to have a spectrum of impurities which may vary to a stronger extent from batch to batch.

As BASF has no influence on the contamination spectrum of waste materials used in recycling processes or of external raw materials that have resulted from recycling and BASF does not monitor such contamination spectrum, BASF does not assume any liability and provides no guarantees regarding compliance with certain value limits and/or the general or specific absence of impurities or contaminations for these products.

Consequently, BASF does not support 'RC' products for the use in any sensitive applications (e.g. food contact, drinking water, medical, toys and/or consumer goods).