

Training certificate required as of August 24, 2023

Polyurethane-based adhesives, sealants and casting resins are versatile, innovative and safe. They are used in a wide range in the area of automotive, engineering, marine, transport, construction, packaging, etc.

On August 04 2020, the new REACH restriction on diisocyanates was published in the Official Journal of the European Union. Why:
The aim of the restriction is to prevent skin and respiratory sensitization possibly caused by diisocyanates. Safety training is required for this!

Adhesives and casting resins from epple have unique properties and are therefore indispensable for many bonding applications in the future. You can see which of our products are affected on the product labels and even in the safety data sheets because these products are marked with a note on the label indicating the need for training. Here it is stated:
From August 24, 2023, appropriate training is required before industrial or professional use.

Who is affected:

All commercial and industrial users with a total concentration of monomeric diisocyanates above 0.1% must provide an evidence of the passed training.

By when must the training be done:

By August 24, 2023, users of the PU adhesives must have been verifiable trained. Private users are not affected!

Who provides these trainings:

It is offered training material in all languages of the European Union for this purpose by the FEICA, ISOPA and ALIPA and the industrial associations of diisocyanate producers. The trainings are in accordance with the legal requirements and are organized in 3 levels depending on the application and hazard scenario.

How are the trainings delivered?

The trainings are available on e-learning platforms which can be taken as online training, webinar or face-to-face training.

Proof:

After passing the training, you will receive a certificate which will be valid for 5 years.

What do traders / converters have to do:

You have to pass on this information to your customers.

To start immediately with the training courses please visit: www.safeusediisocyanates.eu

E. EPPLE & CO. GMBH

Dichtstoffe // Klebstoffe // Gießharze // Lohnfertigungen
Sealants // Adhesives // Cast Resins // Job order manufacturing
Hertzstraße 8
D - 71083 Herrenberg - Germany

Tel. +49 (0)7032/9771-0
Mail: info@epple-chemie.de

www.epple-chemie.de

FAQ (Frequently asked questions):

- **Are diisocyanates safe?**

All chemicals, diisocyanate applications are in general safe provided that the relevant risk management measures are applied or kept.

- **What is respiratory sensitization?**

Sensitization occurs when a person develops an allergy to the chemical after exposure. Once sensitization has occurred, an allergic reaction is affecting the respiratory tract (e.g. asthma) occurs after any contact with the chemical. The majority of people with diisocyanate-related asthma will recover fully once they are no longer exposed.

- **When does the regulation come into force?**

The regulation was announced in the Official Journal of the European Union on August 04, 2020 and entered into force on August 24, 2020. Since August 24, 2023, all professional and industrial users of PU products must be trained.

- **Will PU-based adhesives and sealants remain on the market?**

The restriction pursues the objective of avoiding improper use, but not reducing the availability of the relevant products. Due to the unique properties of PU adhesives and sealants a wide availability of these products can be expected also in future.

- **Does the product supplier need an acknowledgement of receipt from the customer / recipient of the product containing diisocyanate?**

No, the supplier of the product only needs to ensure that the necessary information about the safety training requirements is provided to the commercial or industrial user/customer. The supplier of the product does not have to provide training by himself. The customer as a commercial or industrial user and as an employer needs to ensure that his employees complete the training, also that everything gets documented. The certificates are valid for 5 years.

Further questions:

If you have any further questions, please feel free to visit our website or send us an e-mail to: hse@epple-chemie.de.

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