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## What is REACH?

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## REACH

- Regulation 190/227 concerning the Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals

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## REACH

“This regulation should ensure a high level of protection of human health and the environment as well as the free movement of substances.... while enhancing competitiveness and innovation.”

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## REACH principles

- No data, no market
- all information on hazard and risk management should be systematically conveyed through the supply chain
- substances of high concern should be replaced with safer alternatives

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## REACH practicalities

- European scheme – new Agency in Helsinki
- Regulation applies directly in UK law
- Health and Safety Executive are the “competent authority” for the United Kingdom

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## REACH implications

- Obligations vary in the supply chain
- Manufacturers and importers are likely to have most to do
- Downstream users need to make sure that their interests are covered

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## REACH implications

- There will be changes in the market – supply chains may need to change
- We recognise that REACH is a cost on industry
- But there are significant benefits – for human health and the environment for proportionate controls over hazardous chemicals

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## REACH challenge

- Business needs to be preparing now, to meet the first REACH deadlines in 2008