

REACH: The views and experiences of small business

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REACH and small business

- Who are the FSB?
- Involvement with REACH
- TAKE ACTION NOW!
- Case studies...
 - ... design and manufacturing business
 - ... adhesive manufacturer
 - ... importer of chemicals

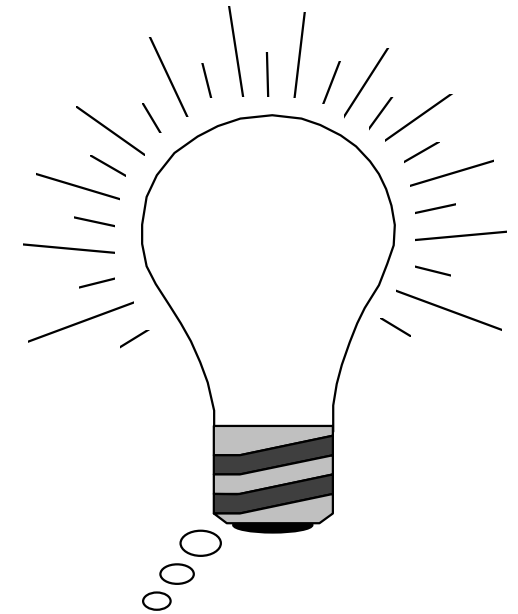
Who are the FSB?

- Membership organisation for SMEs
- 210,000 members in the UK
- Financed by member subscription
- Members business sectors



FSB involvement with REACH

- European Union 'REACH Implementation Project' (RIP) - Downstream Users Group
- Raise members' awareness
- Meetings, website, articles...
- Feedback



TAKE ACTION NOW

- Appoint a responsible person
- Senior management interest is vital
- HOW DO YOU USE CHEMICALS?
- List items and the supplier
- Prune list – speak to suppliers
- Stockists, manufacturer, supply-chain
- Ensure your uses are registered... who is responsible?
- ACTION NOW = FEWER SUPPRISES LATER!



SME case studies: #1

Design and Manufacturing

- Design and manufacture of environmental monitors
- Director responsible for REACH
- Total of 57 products containing chemicals, trimmed to less than 30
- Most supply from stockists
- Difficulty with information
- Generally 6 or more steps in supply chain
- No unusual or special applications
- Products mainly cleaning, surface protection
- Lubricants and other engineering items



SME case studies: #2

Adhesive Manufacturer

- FSB member
- Employ 30 staff
- Use basic chemicals in products
- Some classified as hazardous
- Talks with suppliers
- Some product lines withdrawn
- Alternative formulations
- Time to resolve problems

SME case studies: #3

Chemicals Importer

- Chemicals from non-EU country
- Usually, duty to register products and use

BUT!

- Supplier registered as non-EU manufacturer's 'only representative'
- No need for importer to register
- Need specialist advice