

**BRITISH RETAIL CONSORTIUM**  
for successful and responsible retailing



**THE BODY SHOP™**

## **REACH – A Retail Perspective**

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# THE CHEMICAL HOME

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## THE CHEMICAL HOUSE

SEARCH  GO!

KITCHEN	BATHROOM	BEDROOM	LIVING ROOM
Dishwasher Tablets Floor Coverings Multi-Surface Cleaner Washing Powder Washingup Liquid	Lipstick Perfume Shampoo Shaving Foam/Gel Shower Curtains Skincare	Bed Linen Mattresses Pyjamas & Childrenswear Toys Trenchie	Air Fresheners Carpets Computers Mobile Phones Paints Televisions Upholstered furniture

### SHAMPOO



- Body Shop tea tree oil shampoo
- Ciel D'Azur shampoo
- Cosmo natural shampoo
- Dr Hauschka shampoo
- Elvive shampoo
- Head & Shoulders
- L'Oréal
- Lavera shampoo
- Logona shampoo
- Melvita shampoo
- Natureleza y Vida
- Organics
- Pantene Pro V
- Primavera White Ginger & Mandarin shampoo & conditioner
- Sante shampoo
- Shiseido, The Haircare
- Timotei
- Vidal Sassoon
- Wash & Go
- Weleda shampoos (all)
- Wella Haircare

### BODY SHOP TEA TREE OIL



**GREEN**

**Product rating: green**

A green rating does not mean that a product is perfectly safe, that it does not contain chemicals that are toxic or that it has no impact on the environment. A green rating means that, as far as we have been able to ascertain, the product is free from 'chemicals of very high concern' - that is substances that persist in the environment, build up in the human body, or may cause cancer, damage genetic material, damage the reproductive system or disrupt the hormone system.

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**Scientists' alarm over substance found in make-up, soap and plastics**

# Gender-bender chemicals are harming unborn boys

By **Jenny Hope**  
Medical Correspondent

COMMON chemicals found in thousands of household products can harm the development of unborn baby boys, it was revealed yesterday.

Scientists warned that 'phthalates' used to make soaps, make-up, plastics and a host of other everyday items can disrupt the development of male babies' reproductive organs.

Experts said the finding raises questions about whether they may be linked to increasing rates of male reproductive disorders, including cancer.

It highlights growing scientific concern about the chemicals, known as hormone disruptors or EDCs - endocrine-disrupting chemicals.

High levels of exposure have been linked to reproductive abnormalities - so called gender bending - and population declines in some species of birds, fish, reptiles and amphibians.

But there is even more alarm about the potential harm caused by chronic, low-level exposure to EDCs - starting in the womb.

Phthalates are used in the manufacture of toys, medical equipment and

## 'Woefully inadequate'

paints, as well as hair sprays, deodorants and cosmetics. They have a variety of uses, including giving cosmetics colour and making plastics pliable.

In the latest study, researchers found women with higher levels of phthalate breakdown chemicals, or metabolites, in their urine were more likely to give



## THE HIDDEN DANGERS IN EVERY HOME

Phthalates are used in a wide variety of products including:	Deodorant	Ink	Perfume	Wallpaper (PVC)
Air freshener	Disinfectant	Insect repellent	Plastic raincoats	Washing-up liquid
Baby toys (plastic)	DVD players	Lipstick	Portable music players	Wellington boots
Backpacks	Electrical cables	Mobile phones	PVC flooring	
Beach balls			Shampoo	
Bubble bath			Shaving foam	
Cleaning agents			Shower curtains	
Coatings for tablets	Garden hoses	Moisturisers	Soap	
Computers	Hair gels and mousse	Nail polish	Sunscreens	
	Hairspray	Paint	Toothbrushes	
			Trainers	
			Vinyl blinds	



Source: WWF

## FACTFILE

- Phthalates have been used since the 1930s to make plastics softer and more flexible
- In fragrances they help smells last longer and can mask chemical odours
- Phthalates are not firmly bound into products and have found their way into the environment including remote marine locations
- They can be absorbed through the skin.

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# Retailers support REACH

- UK Retailers have supported REACH since its inception
- Without a trusted regulatory system, retailers and their suppliers would increasingly have to 'self-regulate' their use of chemicals
- Retailers can never return to a situation where it was assumed the regulatory authorities and chemical industry would manage this issue for us
- Retailers must play a role in better chemical management

# The BRC position

From the British Retail Consortium's position paper on REACH:

- *The BRC supports the objectives of REACH and sees it as an opportunity to rebuild societal trust in chemicals and maintain consumer confidence. However, we believe that the workability of REACH in particular relating to consumer articles, imports of preparations and the definitions can be further improved.*

# How has the BRC been preparing retailers for REACH?

- Chemical Working Group
- Chemical Toolkit
- Supply Chain Leadership Group

# Chemicals Working Group

- To provide retailer input to the EU chemicals strategy, communicating the BRC's position at EU and UK level.
- To provide an early warning mechanism to members on new product stewardship/chemicals issues, to pool knowledge and to assist members in responding.
- To develop an understanding of NGO priorities and to enter the debate with NGOs on behalf of members.

# Chemicals Toolkit

- A tool for members to develop their own priority list of chemicals based on already established national and international agency lists.
  - Review this list by providing information on:
    - frequency that chemicals appear on both national and international lists
    - availability of scientific evidence to justify their inclusion on the lists
- Liaise with BRC members to identify research already undertaken in this field to identify end-use applications

# Supply Chain Leadership Group - BRC/CIA initiative

- More transparent and useful communication along the supply chain on product safety matters
- Chemical industry - better understanding of the markets it is ultimately selling into and trends that are shaping them
- Downstream users - better understanding of chemical risk and management / more confident in the use of chemicals in their products
- More efficient control and understanding of complex supply chains

# How does REACH affect the retailer's supply chain?

- REACH regulates chemical substances on their own, in preparations (such as paints) and in articles (such as toys); it captures most of our ranges
- Obtaining the right information is critical, but the complexity of the legislation makes this challenging
- Substances of Very High Concern in articles

# How does REACH impact consumers?

- REACH establishes a duty to provide information on the presence of certain high concern chemicals in articles to ensure safe use of the product.
- Consumers will request information from the supplier of the article on the presence of the substances appearing on the EU candidate list for high concern chemicals.

# What should retailers do next? Pre-registration...

## Build your inventory (IT systems...)

- Decide which products are in scope
  - preparations, articles with intended release
- Map your supply chain
  - varied, complex and increasingly outside of the EU
  - the retailer as importer
- Talk to your suppliers!
  - are they registering the ingredients?
  - only-representatives?

# What should retailers do next? Notification of SVHC's...

## Substances of Very High Concern

- need to anticipate what will be on the candidate list
- information requests
- huge array and diversity of products
- wide variety of materials/chemistries
- potential loss of some chemicals
- can these be substituted?

# Retail supply chains

- Consumer products are sourced globally
- Raw materials for consumer products are sourced globally
- For own-brand products, retailers often devolve all responsibility for regulatory compliance to the developer/manufacturer (the supplier)
- The supplier of the finished product may also operate within a complex supply chain



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# Case study - preparations

- Finished product made in USA and imported into EU
- Importer is responsible for ensuring all ingredients in the product are registered under REACH
- The ingredient manufacturer may have appointed a 'only-representative' in the EU who is responsible for registration ...
- .. if not then the importer is responsible and this may be the retailer



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**INGREDIENTS:** Aqua, Octyl Methoxycinnamate, Octyl Salicylate, C12-15 Alkyl Benzoate, Cyclopentasiloxane, Phenyl Trimethicone, Glycerol Stearate, Butyl Methoxydibenzoylmethane, Butylene Glycol, Cetyl Dimethicone, Potassium Cetyl Phosphate, PEG-12 Dimethicone, Phenoxyethanol, Sesamum indicum, Tetrahydrodecyl Ascorbate, Triethanolamine, Cetyl Alcohol, Carbomer, Behenyl Alcohol, Methylparaben, Parfum, PEG-100 Stearate, Limonene, Disodium EDTA, Butylparaben, Ethylparaben, Isobutylparaben, Propylparaben, Linalol, Benzyl Benzoate, Hexyl Cinnamal, Citrus dulcis, Citrus grandis, Citronellol, Citral, Geraniol, Benzyl Alcohol.



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# Vitamin C SPF 15 Daily Moisturiser

INGREDIENTS: Aqua, Octyl Methoxycinnamate, Octyl Salicylate, C12-15 Alkyl Benzoate, Cyclopentasiloxane, Phenyl Trimethicone, Glyceryl Stearate, Butyl Methoxydibenzoylmethane, Butylene Glycol, Cetyl Dimethicone, Potassium Cetyl Phosphate, PEG-12 Dimethicone, Phenoxyethanol, Sesamum indicum, Tetrahexyldecyl Ascorbate, Triethanolamine, Cetyl Alcohol, Carbomer, Behenyl Alcohol, Methylparaben, Parfum, PEG-100 Stearate, Limonene, Disodium EDTA, Butylparaben, Ethylparaben, Isobutylparaben, Propylparaben, Linalool, Benzyl Benzoate, Hexyl Cinnamal, Citrus dulcis, Citrus grandis, Citronellol, Citral, Ge

# Number of Chemicals In Use In Cosmetic Products

- The CTFA Buyers' Guide contains over 12,000 ingredients listed by INCI name and cross-referenced to over 55,000 technical and trade names. Contact information is provided for nearly 3000 ingredient suppliers from 84 countries.

# Case study - preparations

- As a retailer you will want to avoid having to pre-register (and register) chemicals
- To do this you will need to know your legal obligation and to work this out you need to know:
  - Where the product is made
  - Who is the importer
  - The quantitative formulation
  - The annual tonnage of the product imported and hence ...
  - The annual tonnage of each chemical in the formulation decide if ...
  - More than 1 Tonne p.a. then pre-registration required

# Case study - preparations

However...

- You also need to know where each chemical was manufactured – if it was made in the EU and exported to be imported later within a finished product then it is exempt from registration
- Hence – you might want your finished goods manufacturer to use only chemicals manufactured in the EU



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# Case study - articles

- Imported articles only of concern
- Finished article made in China - you are the importer
- Does it release chemicals during use?
- If yes, need to know the tonnages of the chemicals released per annum - this means the sum of the same chemical released across different articles
- If >1T p.a. then chemical treated as in preparation

# Articles

This means that:

- Their chemical composition should be known
- Any deliberate release of a chemical must be considered (and this would include chemicals that are designed to leach out of the wall of the container and into the preparation contained within it)
- Any authorised chemicals or SVHCs must be identified

# Case study - articles

- Article contains no chemicals that are released during use
- Nevertheless you still need to know if there are any 'Authorised Substances' in the article at a level per article of >0.1% and a total tonnage p.a. of >1T
- If yes, then this needs to be notified to the Chemicals Agency

# Case study - articles

- Retailers, if direct importers will have to know at least which Authorised Substances are present (better if you know the entire product composition)
- Need to know which substances are authorised
- Probably need to obtain certification from the manufacturer to show REACH compliance
- Existing quality assurance laboratories may offer this service

# REACH – practical aspects for retailers: summary

- Supply chain mapping
  - varied, complex and increasingly outside of the EU
  - concern about the retailer as importer
- Chemicals/materials - deciding which products are included in the scope of the legislation
  - IT tools required for inventories
- Articles – definitions and what constitutes ‘release’ of a chemical
  - guidance required
  - the size of the task

# REACH – practical aspects for retailers: summary

- Substances of Very High Concern
  - need to anticipate what will be on the candidate list
- Information exchange and the information that must be provided to consumers

# What are our concerns?

- The understanding of REACH by smaller companies and non-EU suppliers within our supply chain
  - training program
- Expectation of the supply chain regarding information
  - information may not be easy to retrieve
  - looking to trade associations for guidance
- Loss of raw materials - continuity of supply issues
- Information exchange and the information that must be provided to consumers
  - concern that timings of regulation will cause difficulties



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