

Phase 1 Existing Chemical Substances Registration Completed

From 1 September 2015 to 31 March 2016, the EPA conducted Phase 1 registration of existing chemical substances as required by the *Regulations Governing New and Existing Chemical Substances Registration*. Every enterprise that has on average over the past three years imported or manufactured over 100 kg of existing chemical substances annually has had to submit reports within the stated deadline. Over 25,000 types of existing chemical substances are now registered with the EPA.

The registration of existing chemical substances is crucial for building up a complete database on these chemicals. The register will be used as a reference for evaluating which substances will be announced by the end of 2017 as part of the first batch of chemicals that should be registered through standard registration, and also for the later work of determining toxic chemical substances that need to be controlled.

The EPA launched the chemical substance registration system on 11 December 2014. A common registration platform was co-established by the EPA and the Ministry of Labor (MOL). On 8 September 2015 the MOL announced a list of 101,089 existing chemical substances. In accordance with legal requirements, the EPA asked all enterprises that imported or manufactured over 100 kg of existing chemical substances annually to abide by Phase 1 chemical substance registration from 1 September 2015 to 31 March 2016. During this period the EPA received over 10,000 submissions and checked more than 156,000 separate items of information. Analysis showed that over 25,000 substances were registered, of which the top use was for purposes at industrial sites (37.27%), followed by usage for formulation (32.48%).

The EPA is evaluating which substances will be announced by the end of 2017 to be the first batch of chemicals that should be registered through standard registration. Details of these chemicals need to be submitted according to volumes and tonnages stated in the regulations. The information to be submitted includes hazard category and labeling, physical and chemical properties, and safety information. Those chemicals that are evaluated to be toxic will be announced as toxic chemical substances and subject to be controlled.