

Formaldehyde producers support new EU emissions restrictions and call for clear guidelines to support its implementation

Formacare, a sector group of Cefic, welcomes the EU's recent adoption of a formaldehyde emissions restriction. Representing Europe's formaldehyde industry, Formacare is prepared to collaborate with the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA) to develop clearer compliance testing guidelines for products and vehicles.

Under REACH, the adopted restriction aims to mitigate risks to consumers, promote fair competition, and harmonise product quality, especially for wood-based panels. It sets limits for formaldehyde emissions: 0.062 mg/m³ for wood-based panels, 0.08 mg/m³ for other types of products, and 0.062 mg/m³ for vehicles. Industry operators have three years to comply with the restriction; vehicles manufacturers have four years.

This adoption marks the end of an almost six-year process involving numerous stakeholders, including European and national regulators, and REACH competent authorities.

Lars Eric Johansson, Chairman of Formacare, commented:

“Formacare acknowledges the necessity of regulatory action to ensure the highest level of consumer safety. With this agreed restriction on formaldehyde emissions from products and in vehicles, the European Union has adopted stringent legislation that also safeguards the integrity of the EU Single Market for the formaldehyde industry and its value chain.”

Nonetheless, many stakeholders have emphasised the need for clearer guidelines, particularly regarding the legal text on compliance testing conditions for products and vehicles. Formacare and its industry partners have the necessary expertise to support ECHA in preparing these much-needed guidelines. In this respect, we look forward to the beginning of the guidance preparation and remain available to support the relevant authorities and stakeholders.

About Formaldehyde

Formaldehyde is a naturally occurring chemical widely produced for applications such as glues for wood panels, coatings for paints, lubricants, high-end plastics, etc. The formaldehyde value chain provides direct jobs to 30,000 people in Europe, with as many as 1,7 million jobs in downstream sectors being supported by formaldehyde applications.

About Formacare

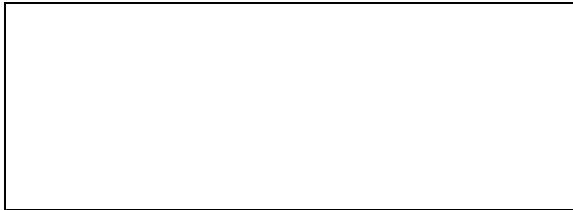
Formacare is the formaldehyde sector group of the European Chemical Industry Council (Cefic) representing key European producers of formaldehyde, aminoplast glues and polyols. Made up of representatives from large chemical and manufacturing companies across Europe, Formacare promotes the safe use and manufacturing of formaldehyde in accordance with the strictest health, safety and environmental regulations.

For more information please contact:



PRESS RELEASE

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