

## **News Alert:**

Helsinki, 18 November 2008

### **BACK-UP SUBMISSION PROCEDURE FOR PRE-REGISTRATION IS READY, IF NEEDED, TO ENSURE COMPANIES CAN PRE-REGISTER BY THE 1 DECEMBER DEADLINE**

If the REACH-IT system cannot absorb the large number of pre-registrations before the deadline, ECHA will provide an additional pre-registration submission method in the final days of pre-registration. This method will be implemented only if absolutely necessary. The deadline for pre-registration cannot be extended by ECHA, and only a submission via REACH-IT guarantees the receipt of a pre-registration number and direct access to the pre-SIEF without delay. Therefore, companies are advised not to defer sign-up and pre-registration.

On 16 November, ECHA doubled the capacity of REACH-IT, which substantially improved the performance of the system also during peak hours. Over the coming days, ECHA will implement further technical solutions to enhance system performance. The performance will be constantly monitored and there will be status updates on the website each working day. ECHA advises industry to avoid peak hours if possible and to use the bulk format for substances with EC numbers.

ECHA reminds companies that the pre-registration deadline of December 1<sup>st</sup>, set out in the REACH Regulation, cannot be extended by ECHA. In order to guarantee that industry can pre-register by 1 December 2008, ECHA has now developed a back-up submission procedure. This procedure could be applied if REACH-IT was not able to absorb the influx of last-minute pre-registrations and was not accessible during the final phase of pre-registration. In that case, the submission of pre-registrations directly via a web form on the ECHA website would be enabled as an alternative pre-registration method.

However, companies using this contingency system outside of REACH-IT would not immediately receive a pre-registration number. Instead they would have to wait until

their pre-registration was subsequently migrated into REACH-IT after 1 December 2008. This would also delay inclusion in the pre-SIEF and the ability to contact other pre-registrants of the same substance. In order to minimise the potential impact of this, companies that used this route before the pre-registration deadline would be offered the possibility to re-enter themselves the corresponding information directly in REACH-IT after 1 December.

Companies are encouraged to sign up as promptly as possible in REACH-IT and to submit their pre-registrations via the system in bulk or individually. The implementation of a back-up submission method via a web form will only take place if absolutely necessary.

Companies signed up to ECHA News Alerts will automatically be informed of the back-up procedure for pre-registration, should it be implemented.

## Further Information

To sign up in REACH-IT, type the following address to internet address line:

[http://echa.europa.eu/reachit/createaccount-it\\_en.asp](http://echa.europa.eu/reachit/createaccount-it_en.asp)

To submit your pre-registration through the REACH-IT Portal on the ECHA website, click "REACH-IT" in the main menu on the ECHA website or type the following address to internet address line:

[http://echa.europa.eu/reachit\\_en.asp](http://echa.europa.eu/reachit_en.asp)

To contact the ECHA Helpdesk for advice on pre-registration type the following address to internet address line:

[http://echa.europa.eu/about/contact-form\\_en.asp](http://echa.europa.eu/about/contact-form_en.asp)

From 17 November to 1 December 2008, ECHA is offering a **Rapid Response Service for pre-registrants**. This service is available in the above address.

To subscribe to the ECHA news alerts, send your e-mail address to:

[info@echa.europa.eu](mailto:info@echa.europa.eu)