

In 2007, the new chemicals legislation, or ECHA - Legislation, came into force. It concerns the registration, evaluation and authorization of chemicals (REACH).

According to Article 5 of the REACH Regulation ("No Data, No Market"), no substances will in future be permitted to be manufactured within the European Community or imported from non-member countries into the EU if they have not first been registered with the European Chemical Agency, ECHA, in Helsinki. This regulation applies to the substance itself and its use as a component in a preparation or a product.

The key point is that according to REACH, traditional abrasives are classed as products. However, a substance used in a product only needs to be registered if the substance is intended to be released when the product is used.

No intentional release of substances takes place when abrasive products are used. This position is also supported by the Federation of European Producers of Abrasives (FEPA).

Carborundum Grinding Wheel Co. products – in particular bonded conventional abrasives – are not considered to be substances or preparations, but products with unintentional release.

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