

# Chemical Inventory

## Why prepare a chemical inventory?

A company's duties under REACH largely depend on their position in the supply chain and the substances and quantities of substances they handle. Development of a chemical inventory, while not a legal requirement under REACH, is a good way of finding out what substances a company deals with and thus assists in determining the duties of an organisation under REACH. A chemical inventory is simply a list of all substances on site that are either manufactured, imported or used by the company.

## What information should be included in the inventory?

The inventory will list all substances on site. These may be substances on their own, formulated into mixtures or even incorporated into articles. Depending on the company and the nature of its business, this list may include substances required to maintain or use machinery such as lubricants, solvents or varnishes, or substances contained in printer inks, glues, resins and detergents. The complexity of the chemical inventory will therefore vary depending on the nature of business and variety of substances or mixtures dealt with by the company.

The inventory should include chemical identification numbers such as CAS (Chemical Abstract Service) and / or [EINECS](#) (European inventory of Existing Commercial Chemical Substances) numbers. In addition, the classification and labeling (hazard phrases) of the substance, the tonnage per annum manufactured or imported and the name and address of the supplier should also be included in the list.

## Where can the required information be found?

All sources of information, along with what is available in-house in a company, should be checked. These sources include the safety data sheet (SDS), the label on the packaging of the substance and information from the suppliers. The CAS and / or EINECS number and the hazard phrase(s) may be available on the label of the chemical, and in sections one, two and three of the safety data sheet. The tonnage of a substance manufactured, imported or used per annum may be determined based on information in the [guidance on registration](#) from the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA). It is important to note that for mixtures, the tonnage is calculated *per substance in the mixture*, and not for the mixture itself.

## Definitions

A substance is any chemical element or its compounds; examples include chlorine, hydrochloric acid, aluminium, potassium and potassium hydroxide.

A mixture is composed of two or more substances, examples include detergents which may contain sodium hypochlorite or hydrochloric acid and printer inks which may contain carbon black or iron oxide.

## Sample Chemical Inventory

A car repair company uses a mixture for cleaning engines, 'Engine Cleaner', for which they possess a relevant safety data sheet. Sections one to three, containing the pertinent information for creating a chemical inventory, are included in the sample safety data sheet below. The company purchases two tonnes per annum of this product from a supplier based within the E.U.

1. Identification of the substance/preparation and of the company/undertaking

**Identification of the substance or preparation**

Name: Engine Cleaner, 1000ml

**Company / undertaking identification**

Name: Company X

Address: 2 Big Building, Wentworthshire, Great Britain, W87 2JL

Telephone: (44) 1234 56789

**Emergency Telephone:** (44) 987 654321

2. hazards identification

**CLASSIFICATION OF MIXTURE**

R66: Repeated exposure may cause skin dryness or cracking. R51/53: Toxic to aquatic organisms, may cause long-term adverse effects in the aquatic environment.

**ENVIRONMENT**

See section 12 for additional information on environmental hazards.

**HUMAN HEALTH**

See section 11 for additional information on health hazards.

3. Composition / Information on Ingredients

<u>CAS No.</u>	<u>EINECS No.</u>	<u>Substance Name</u>	<u>Hazard / Risk Phrase</u>	<u>%</u>
123-45-6	212-323-2	Methyl Isobutyl Alcohol	Xi, R10, R37	5% (v/v)
789-10-11	425-262-7	Solvent naptha (petroleum)	N; R51/53	30% (v/v)
121-34-15	282-930-3	Xylene	Xn, R10; R20/21, Xi; R38	< 1% (v/v)
161-17-18	031-323-3	Distillates (petroleum) hydrotreated	Xn; R66.	60-65% (v/v)

Preparation Name (where applicable)	Substance Name	CAS Number	EINECS Number	Hazard Data	Tonnage/Ann um	Supplier Name and Number	Supplier Address	Use of Substance	Registration Details
Engine Cleaner	Methyl Isobutyl Alcohol	123-45-6	212-323-2	Xi; R10, R37	0.1	Company X, (44) 1234 56789	2 Big Building, Wentworthshire, Great Britain.	This substance is part of a mixture used to clean engines	< 1 t/a
Engine Cleaner	Solvent (petroleum)	789-10-11	425-262-7	N; R51/53	0.6	Company X, (44) 1234 56789	2 Big Building, Wentworthshire, Great Britain.	This substance is part of a mixture used to clean engines	< 1 t/a
Engine Cleaner	Xylene	121-34-15	282-930-3	Xn; R10, R20/21, Xi; R38	0.02	Company X, (44) 1234 56789	2 Big Building, Wentworthshire, Great Britain.	This substance is part of a mixture used to clean engines	< 1 t/a
Engine Cleaner	Distillates (petroleum) hydrotreated	161-17-18	031-323-3	Xn; R66	1.2	Company X, (44) 1234 56789	2 Big Building, Wentworthshire, Great Britain.	This substance is part of a mixture used to clean engines	Supplier has pre-registered, written confirmation received.