**Proposed restriction of hazardous substances (CMR 1A and 1B) in textile articles and clothing**

***What is the proposal?***

The European Commission has launched a public consultation on a proposal to restrict hazardous substances (Carcinogens, Mutagens and substances Toxic to Reproduction, Categories 1A and 1B) from textile articles and clothing for consumer use See the [Commission website](http://ec.europa.eu/growth/tools-databases/newsroom/cf/itemdetail.cfm?item_id=8299) for more details.

***The European Commission is proposing to introduce this restriction via a ‘fast track’ approach under Article 68(2) of the REACH Regulation.***

***How can interested parties or the public have their say?***

Interested parties can submit comments to the European Commission during the public consultation until 22nd January 2016 at the latest using the online submissions form at this [link](http://ec.europa.eu/growth/tools-databases/newsroom/cf/itemdetail.cfm?item_id=8299).

***Why is there a need for action?***

Substances that are carcinogenic, mutagenic or toxic to reproduction (CMRs) are of specific concern due to the long term and serious effects that they may exert on human health. CMRs Category 1A and 1B are substances known or presumed to have carcinogenic potential for humans; known or presumed to induce hereditary mutations in the germ cells of humans;and substances known or presumed to be toxic for human reproduction. The European Chemicals Agency (ECHA) has compiled a list of 291 such substances which could be present in textile or clothing articles. The concern is such substances would be in prolonged contact with human skin and could impact human health.

clothing articles

***What will the restriction mean in practice?***

The proposed restriction will place a ban on the presence of the listed CMR substances in textile or clothing articles. Further details on the restriction can be read [here.](file:///C%3A%5CUsers%5Ckevin_buckley%5CDownloads%5CList%20of%20CMR%20substances%20-%20Background.pdf)

The Chemicals Helpdesk of the Health & Safety Authority can answer any questions you may have; please contact the team at chemicals@hsa.ie 20th November 2015