



## REACH OVERVIEW

In June of 2007, the European Union adopted a regulatory framework to manage the risks associated with the use of chemicals imported into the EU. The resulting regulations, named **REACH**, apply to the **R**egistration, **E**valuation, **A**uthorization and restriction of **C**hemicals.

At **General Cable** we view compliance with this new EU legislation as an integral part of our comprehensive risk management policy and our ongoing efforts to protect the environment and promote public safety. As a first step, **General Cable** has reviewed the **REACH** regulation and is enacting various programs to ensure that its products will comply with the requirements according to the deadlines established for the transition period through 2018.

Over the next decade, approximately 30,000 existing substances already on the European market will have to be registered with the new Helsinki-based European Chemicals Agency (**ECHA**) and subsequently evaluated for safe use. This agency will release non-confidential testing data about these substances and their risks and will determine whether certain substances should remain in use.

In addition, a list of **Substances of Very High Concern (SVHCs)** is being generated and evaluated by the ECHA and the EU member-states on an ongoing basis. Based on a review of the data gathered during this process, some of these substances may then be added to the **Candidate list** of materials for subsequent **Authorization** for use. If, following additional testing and evaluation, the substances are then placed on the Authorization list, they may only be imported into the EU with prior authorization from **ECHA**.

## **GCC NORTH AMERICA - REACH STATUS**

The primary **REACH** obligations with respect to “Articles” (in our case cables) manufactured outside the EU and subsequently imported into the EU are to provide safe handling instructions to recipients of the articles that contain substances on the Candidate List and, after June 2011, to notify the **ECHA** when articles containing such substances are imported into the EU in quantities in excess of certain designated thresholds.

In summary, **General Cable** is aware of **REACH** and the importance of restricting the use of hazardous chemicals in its products. As such, **General Cable** is taking the necessary steps to comply with the evolving **REACH** requirements as they pertain to wire and cable products and materials.

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