What is Reach?

Created by the European Union, REACH is the Regulation for Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals. It entered into force on 1st June 2007 to streamline and improve the former legislative framework on chemicals of EU. The aim of REACH is to improve the protection of human health and the environment through the better and earlier identification of the intrinsic properties of chemical substances.

REACH places greater responsibility on industry to manage the risks that chemicals may pose to the health and the environment. Manufacturers and importers will be required to identify and manage risks linked to the substances they manufacture and market. For substances produced or imported in quantities of 1 ton or more per year per natural or legal person, manufacturers and importers, respectively, need to demonstrate that they have appropriately done so by means of a registration dossier, which shall be submitted to the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA) in Helsinki.

The Regulation also calls for the progressive substitution of the most dangerous chemicals when suitable alternatives have been identified.

Additional information on REACH can be found at the following websites:

- European Chemical Agency
- Eurometaux

Alcoa’s Response to REACH

Operating in a manner that promotes health and well-being of our employees, our communities and the environment is a core Value to Alcoa. We are committed to product safety and to compliance with our obligations under REACH.

REACH Registration requirement:

For the legal entities based in European Economic Area (EEA), Alcoa has:

- Contacted our suppliers and other parties up the supply chain to determine their willingness to preregister and, subsequently, register applicable chemical substances, with the aim of continuing the delivery of Alcoa products.
- Preregistered the substances that we manufacture and/or import in order to benefit from the transitional periods provided by preregistration under REACH
- Alcoa legal entities have registered the substances in their product portfolio legally required to be registered by those legal entities by the first (01.12.2010) and second (01.06.2013) registration deadlines.

For the legal entities located outside the European Economic Area (EEA),

- We are happy to inform you that, although not being a legal obligation, some non-EEA Alcoa legal entities have registered through an Only Representative aluminium, alumina and aluminium hydroxide by the first registration deadline (01.12.2010)

For Alcoa entities outside of the European Economic Area (EEA), details of Alcoa’s Only Representative are available upon written request through your Alcoa Commercial contact. For Alcoa legal entities outside of the European Economic Area (EEA), registration and preregistration numbers for the substances in their products are available upon written request through your Alcoa Commercial contact.

For Alcoa entities outside of the European Economic Area (EEA), details of Alcoa’s Only Representative are available upon written request through your Alcoa Commercial contact. Please note that many of Alcoa products (e.g., fasteners, turbine vanes, building panels, coils, plate, sheet, foil and extruded parts) are considered as articles under REACH, which are not subject to the preregistration / registration requirement.
REACH Candidate list and Authorization list:

Alcoa is monitoring the substances on the candidate and on the authorization lists, which are being modified periodically.

As the number or substances both in the REACH candidate and REACH authorization lists grows, Alcoa together with its suppliers, customers and branch organizations continues to evaluate applicability of REACH requirements to our manufacturing processes carried out in the European Economic Area and to our products imported into the European Economic Area, to ensure timely compliance. Please note that, in the future, the use of some substances might need to be substituted.

If you have any question regarding Alcoa products and REACH, you can address your commercial contact or the ReachTeam@alcoa.com.