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Training Requirements for the Handling of Diisocyanates – Coatings and Binders

Leeson Polyurethanes supply into the industrial and professional sectors one component polyurethane pre-polymer and two component polyurethane coatings and binders, both product groups contain diisocyanates within their formulations.

On 3 August 2020 the COMMISSION REGULATION (EU) 2020/1149 amending Annex XVII to Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council concerning the Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals (REACH) as regards diisocyanates was published. The regulation means that diisocyanates have been restricted under REACH. Due to this amendment being in place before the end of the United Kingdom's Brexit transition the restrictions are also in effect under UK REACH.

The regulation amends ANNEX XVII of the REACH regulation and restricts the use of diisocyanates as substances on their own, as a constituent in other substances or in mixtures in concentrations above 0.1% by weight for industrial and professional use after 24 August 2023:

- The employer or self-employed person ensures that industrial or professional user(s) have successfully completed training on the safe use of diisocyanates prior to the use of the substance(s) or mixture(s).
- The employer or self-employed person maintains documentation of the successful completion of the training which must be renewed at least every five years.

Training can be undertaken using the online training platform <https://www.safeusediisocyanates.eu/> this has been created in partnership with ISOPA and ALIPA, the diisocyanate manufacturers' industry associations and relevant trade associations. Training requirements and modules are dependent on the sector and environment the product is used in, which are detailed in the training selection guide. The training must be completed by the 23 August 2023.

The list of the relevant training modules available on the PU platform for workers applying PU coatings and binders includes:

- 005 Application by brush or roller, open mixtures, cleaning and waste
- 022 Application by brush and roller, cleaning and waste
- 024 Dipping and Pouring, Open handling of hot and warm formulations (45°C), Cleaning and Waste
- 049 Professional application / Flooring and waterproofing applications

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