



## **Newsletter RNI srl 3.7.2020**

### **ECHA: DECISION ON THE NEW REACH ENFORCEMENT PROGRAM (REF-10)**

The Forum for Exchange of Information on Enforcement met virtually on 22-25 June 2020. The new REF-10 plan focuses on integrated product controls that control various tasks, including related to items, but also to mixtures. Most consumer products are expected to be verified.

Inspectors will verify if the products comply with the restrictions under REACH. The officers will also check whether the products comply with the restrictions for the presence of persistent organic pollutants defined under the POPs Regulation. The specific substances that will be subject to verification will be decided in 2021 and will be involved in phthalates or PFOS.

For the articles, the obligations related to the presence of SVHC will be verified.

The Forum also set deadlines for the pilot project on the classification of mixtures, which will focus on the classification of detergents and cleaning products. Updates for this project will be released in late 2020, with inspection between 2021 and 2022, the final report is expected for 2023.

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## **US EPA POLICY ON ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL END BY 31 AUGUST**

US EPA will discontinue its temporary policy of exercising "discretionary controls" by companies that fail to meet normal environmental reporting and monitoring requirements by 31 August due to outages caused by the ongoing pandemic.

The temporary policy, originally announced in late March, had raised widespread concern that it would be used as a "license to pollute".

The EPA, however, defended its decision, stating that it expected companies to continue to fulfill their regulatory obligations, and intended to ensure that the agency could focus its resources on the most critical issues.



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## **CORONAVIRUS: THERE IS NO EVIDENCE THAT FOOD IS A SOURCE OR VEHICLE OF TRANSMISSION**

EFSA is closely monitoring the situation related to the coronavirus epidemic (COVID-19) which is affecting a large number of countries around the world. There is currently no evidence that food is the likely source or vehicle of the virus's transmission.

According to Marta Hugas, EFSA's scientific director, there is no evidence of the transmission of Covid-19 through the consumption of food. ECDC said that while animals were the likely source of the initial infection in China, the virus is spreading from person to person, primarily through respiratory droplets that people emit when they sneeze, cough, or breathe out. Scientists and organizations from all over the world are monitoring the spread of the virus and there are no reports of transmission through food. For this reason, EFSA is not currently involved in the response to the COVID-19 epidemic. With regard to food

safety, the World Health Organization (WHO) has issued a series of precautionary recommendations including advice on good hygiene practices when handling and preparing food, such as washing hands, cooking food thoroughly. meat and avoid potential cross-contamination between cooked and uncooked food. More information is available on the WHO website.

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## DISTRIBUTION OF MEDICAL DEVICES IN EU

The new European regulation on medical devices would come into force on May 26 of this year. However, the health emergency has shifted the date of entry into force of Regulation 745 to 26 May 2021. However, the date of application of regulation 746 for in vitro diagnostic medical devices remains unchanged despite the problems faced by the diagnostics sector are specular to those of medical devices. The new regulations on medical devices - (EU) 2017/745 - and on in vitro diagnostic medical devices - (EU) 2017/746 - align EU legislation with technical and medical science progress and the evolution made in the process legislative. Currently the responsibilities and obligations of device distributors are not governed by European legislation, but by provisions issued by each Member State, mostly related to local device registration obligations. The new regulations will reduce the risks of conflicting interpretations, in favor of greater transparency and solidity.

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