

REACH, SVHC and RoHS at Aurajoki

The European Chemicals Agency (ECHA) monitors and guides the safe use and storage of chemicals.

The REACH regulation (Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals) will introduce practices to ensure the safe use of chemicals.

- Since Aurajoki does not import any chemicals, only the obligations concerning downstream users apply to the company.

Our importers and manufacturers verify that all the chemical substances we use have been registered, and that they are aware of the way in which the substances are used at our facilities, so they can use the information to create exposure scenarios.

The candidate list of substances of very high concern (SVHC) was updated on 20 June 2016.

- None of these substances are used in Aurajoki's hot-dip galvanised products.
- Electroplated, aluminium-anodised and passivated products do not contain these substances in amounts exceeding 0.1% of the weight of the coating.

The Restriction of Hazardous Substances Directive (RoHS) restricts the use of certain hazardous substances in electrical and electronic equipment.

- Directive 2002/95/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council, adopted on 27 January 2003, was replaced by Directive 2011/65/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council, which was adopted on 8 June 2011 and took effect on 2 January 2013. The RoHS II Directive broadened the restrictions on hazardous substances specified in the RoHS I Directive, to include all electrical and electronic equipment and its components.

The Finnish Ministry of the Environment incorporated the provisions of the directive in the following decree:

The Ministry of the Environment Decree on the Restriction of the Use of Hazardous Substances in Electrical and Electronic Equipment, 14 June 2013/419

- In accordance with a decision by the Ministry of the Environment, the use of hazardous substances in electrical and electronic equipment is restricted under paragraph 1 of section 4 of the Act on Restriction of the Use of Certain Hazardous Substances in Electrical and Electronic Equipment (387/2013).

Section 1 of Ministry of the Environment decree 26 January 2016/57 states the following:

Restrictions on the use of hazardous substances

- The electrical and electronic equipment, or the cables and components intended for the repair, reuse, and functional updates or capacity additions for this equipment, made available on the market, may not contain lead, mercury, cadmium, hexavalent chromium, polybrominated biphenyls (PBB), polybrominated diphenyl ethers (PBDE), bis(2-ethylhexyl) phthalate (DEHP), benzyl butyl phthalate (BBP), dibutyl phthalate (DBP), or diisobutyl phthalate (DIBP) in amounts that exceed the maximum allowable concentrations in homogeneous materials.

- The maximum allowable concentrations of lead, mercury, hexavalent chromium, polybrominated biphenyls (PBB), polybrominated diphenyl ethers (PBDE), bis(2-ethylhexyl) phthalate (DEHP), benzyl butyl phthalate (BBP), dibutyl phthalate (DBP), or diisobutyl phthalate (DIBP) in homogeneous materials is 0.1 percent by weight, and the maximum allowable cadmium concentration of cadmium is 0.01 percent by weight.

Aurajoki processes

- We use chromium6+ in our zinc-electroplating, green passivation, and aluminium yellow chromating processes. Products treated in this way are not ROHS compliant. Our hot-dip galvanised and all other electroplated coatings are ROHS compliant.
- Our chrome-plating process uses chromium6+ compounds, but the finished products only contain metallic chromium, which makes them safe and RoHS compliant.
- Our surface-treatment processes are of high quality and environmentally friendly, and comply with the ISO 9001 and ISO 14001 certification requirements.