



The Swedish Chemicals Agency

KEMI
Kemikalieinspektionen
Swedish Chemicals Agency

The Swedish Chemicals Agency (Kemi)

The Swedish Chemicals Agency is a central supervisory authority under the Ministry of the Environment and is responsible for A Non-Toxic Environment* – one of Sweden's 16 environmental quality objectives.

KEMI WORKS AT THE NATIONAL, EU AND GLOBAL LEVELS to limit the health and environmental risks associated with chemicals. In Sweden, the Agency supervises importers and manufacturers of chemical products and articles, and supports the supervision of chemicals by municipalities and county administrative boards.

KEMI COLLABORATES on a broad basis with businesses, authorities and others to ensure a high level of chemical safety to promote efforts to bring about A Non-Toxic Environment.

KEMI MAKES ITS EXPERT KNOWLEDGE AVAILABLE through several duty officers and its website www.kemi.se, with a large number of databases and up-to-date information on chemicals, plant protection products and biocides.

**The environment must be free from man-made or extracted compounds and metals that represent a threat to human health or biological diversity.*

The chemicals regulation REACH

THE EU'S NEW REGULATION on chemicals, REACH, is joint legislation applied by all Member States of the EU. REACH gives businesses clearer responsibility for the health and environmental hazards of chemical substances. Each EU Member State is responsible for compliance with the regulation within the country.

KEMI IS THE COMPETENT AUTHORITY responsible for implementing REACH in Sweden. It cooperates with the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA) in Helsinki. KemI is represented on committees that deal with overarching issues, risk assessment, risk limitation, classification and labelling, socioeconomic analyses and inspection and enforcement.

KEMI'S REACH INFORMATION enables companies to obtain guidance by e-mail and on the phone on how the new regulation affects them. Detailed information can be found on www.kemi.se/reach.

Pesticides

PLANT PROTECTION PRODUCTS AND BIOCIDAL PRODUCTS are used, for example, to counteract insect and fungal attack in agriculture and forestry or to protect wood and boat hulls against fouling.

KEMI PLAYS AN ACTIVE PART in work on the EU's Plant Protection Products Regulation and Biocides Directive and represents the Swedish Government in negotiations at EU level. Sweden and KemI have been successful in pressing for substitution, that is to say the replacement of hazardous chemicals by less hazardous ones, to be introduced into EU legislation.

THE EU MEMBER STATES cooperate in assessing active ingredients in pesticides. At KemI this work takes place under the Swedish reporting programme SERP.

PESTICIDES MUST BE APPROVED before they may be placed on the market. KemI checks that health and environmental requirements are met. In the Pesticides Register it is possible to search on approved pesticides, companies and exemptions, on the website:

<http://apps.kemi.se/bkmregoff>

Inspection and guidance

KEMI'S INSPECTORS SUPERVISE COMPANIES that manufacture and import chemical products and articles. Visits take place throughout the country, and the inspectors check that the legislation is complied with, for example that the labelling is correct, that pesticides on sale have been authorised and that articles do not contain any prohibited substances.

KEMI PROVIDES GUIDANCE TO MUNICIPALITIES and county administrative boards, for example giving university courses on chemicals inspection. Kemi's inspectors cooperate both with inspectors in the other Nordic countries and with other EU Member States on inspection and enforcement.

THE PRODUCTS REGISTER contains basic facts on nearly 150,000 chemicals and 2,500 businesses. Businesses that manufacture chemical products or import them to Sweden have to notify this to the Products Register, which can consequently provide information on status, development and trends in the use of chemicals. Kemi and other agencies use the information in inspection and enforcement and in various types of preventive activity.

International work

KEMI ASSISTS IN EFFORTS TO DEVELOP and implement international conventions and other agreements in the area of chemicals. It is the Swedish contact authority for the global chemicals strategy SAICM and the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs). It also takes part in work related to the Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade and in work to bring about global measures against certain heavy metals. It takes part in OECD chemicals programmes relating, for instance, to test methods and nanomaterials.

IN COOPERATION WITH the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida), KemI has developed a programme of support for countries that wish to build up national chemicals control. This includes regional and bilateral support to several countries in Africa, Asia and Eastern Europe, as well as international courses.

Current legislation

CHEMICALS CONTROL IS BASED on a number of laws and regulations that are both EU-wide and national and that govern Kemi's operations. See www.kemi.se/legislation for links.

SWEDISH RULES ARE CONTAINED IN: The Environmental Code and ordinances, KIFS (Swedish Chemicals Agency Regulations).

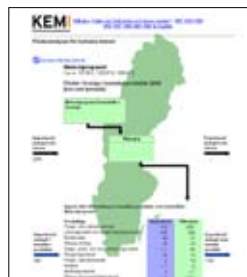
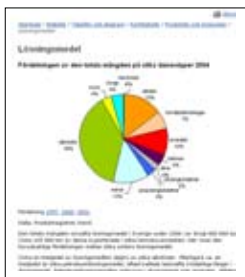
EU REGULATIONS (which are directly applicable without being introduced into Swedish legislation). These include: REACH, Plant Protection Products, Classification, Labelling and Packaging of Products (CLP). CLP is based on the Global Harmonized System (GHS) of classification and labelling of chemicals.

EU DIRECTIVES (introduced into Swedish legislation): Kemi primarily works on EU directives that relate to biocides, chemicals in electronics (RoHS), volatile organic compounds (VOCs), toys and building products.

Statistics on use of chemicals in Sweden

KEMI IS RESPONSIBLE FOR the official statistics in the area of chemicals (sale and use). The statistics can be found on the Kemi website www.kemi.se and are available free of charge.

- Statistics in Brief shows trends in use, volumes and technical properties.
- Flow analysis provides facts on substances.
- Kemi-Stat contains data from the products and pesticide registers and shows which chemical products and substances are used in Sweden.



Information on substances in databases

THE DATABASES can be useful to manufacturers and importers of products and articles, who must find out what properties the substances contained in them have, so that they do not harm humans and the environment. They contain information on the names, properties and hazardousness of substances and restrictions on their use.

- PRIO helps in selecting the least hazardous substances or products through its assessment guide.
- The Restricted Substances Database makes it simple to find rules on prohibitions and other restrictions applicable to substances in Sweden within the area covered by KemI.
- The List of Substances contains chemical substances with their international registration numbers (CAS).
- N-Class and H-Class show the effects of substances on the environment and health.

Website, newsletter, facts sheets and reports

KEMI'S WEBSITE WWW.KEMI.SE is aimed at various target groups:

- Businesses obtain guidance and facts on chemical substances.
- Inspectors obtain guidance through the website.
- Consumers and students obtain information on chemical substances.
- The media can study press releases and news items.

Kemi's journal *Aktuellt från Kemi* and other publications are free of charge. Subscribe to the journal and newsletter through www.kemi.se/subscribe. Order publications from kemi@cm.se or +46 (0)8-50 59 33 35 (CM Gruppen).



The Kemi duty unit answer questions

CONTACT ONE OF OUR TELEPHONE DUTY STAFF if you have a specific question concerning any of Kemi's subject areas. If you are unsure what area the question relates to, phone the Kemi switchboard, tel. +46 (0)8-519 41 100

- Industry chemicals, 08-519 41 111
- Biocidal products, biotechnical products, 08-519 41 122,
e-mail: biocider@kemi.se
- The Products Register, 08-519 41 183,
e-mail: produktregistret@kemi.se
- Reach Helpdesk and CLP Helpdesk, www.kemi.se
- Registrar, 08-519 41 100, fax: 08-735 76 98,
e-mail: kemi@kemi.se
- Plant Protection Products, 08-519 41 333,
e-mail: vaxtskydd@kemi.se

Facts about Kemi

- Responsible for the environmental quality objective A Non-Toxic Environment.
- Supervises manufacturers and importers.
- An Insight Committee monitors operations.
- Has a Toxicological Council and a REACH Council.
- Around 200 employees (2008).
- Kemi is largely funded by fees.
- Comes under the Ministry of the Environment.

*Swedish Chemicals Agency, P.O. Box 2, 172 13 Sundbyberg,
Visitors' address: Esplanaden 3 A, Tel: +468-519 41 100,
Fax: +468-735 76 98, E-mail: kemi@kemi.se,
Order No: 510 915, ISBN: 978-91-7932-064-3*