



## **THE REACH DIRECTIVE**

### **COMPANY POLICY STATEMENT**

The European Union (EU) has established REACH, an integrated system for the registration, evaluation, authorization and restriction of chemicals.

REACH requires firms which manufacture and import chemicals to evaluate the risks resulting from the use of those chemicals and to take the necessary steps to manage any identified risk. Industry has the burden of proving the chemicals produced and placed on the market are safe.

The purpose of the regulation is to ensure a high level of protection of human health and the environment and to strengthen the competitiveness of the chemicals sector and promote innovation.

The Directive includes annexes, which are under constant revision, listing 'Substances of Very High Concern' (SVHCs) such as carcinogens or substances considered very harmful to the environment. An authorization procedure may be required for some of these substances to control their use and to encourage the development of safer alternatives.

Under the REACH regulations, XPS (a downstream user) has an obligation to provide information to the user if a product contains an SVHC in a concentration greater than 0.1% by weight.

XPS has appointed a Manager, Mr Barry Vince, to coordinate our compliance activities, perform risk assessments and obtain information from our suppliers.

To date no SVHCs have been identified in our products at a level requiring any action. Analysis is continuing as new substances are added to the annexes and new products to our portfolio.

XPS is committed to an environmental management system (ISO14001 Approved) to ensure that all aspects of our business have the least harmful effect on the environment.