

# REACH for Aluminium

Terminology and process



## Contents

1. REACH Introduction.....	4
2. Explanation of terms.....	4
3. Execution Process.....	7
3.1 Registration process (via joint submission).....	7
3.2 Decision Tree.....	8
4. REACH registration criteria and costs.....	9
4.1 Total cost components.....	9
4.2 ECHA cost breakdown.....	9
4.2.1 Tonnage bands - annually:.....	9
4.2.2 Determination of organization size:.....	9
4.2.3 ECHA registration fees.....	10
4.3 Access costs to consortium data.....	10
4.4 Example total cost breakdown.....	11
5. Practical Tips & Tricks.....	121
6. Questions & Answers.....	12
6.1 General.....	12
6.2 Process.....	12
6.3 Registration.....	13
7. Conclusion.....	14
ANNEX.....	15

### Disclaimer:

This factsheet is provided for information purposes only. While we do our best to provide you with the most correct information, Raffemet Commodities BV can not be held liable for any loss arising from any use of this information.

## Purpose

The aim of this document is to:

- Provide a practical hands-on guide for people or businesses in the Primary Aluminium industry, who have their first dealings with REACH.
- Discuss the basic principles of REACH.
- Discuss how to register for Primary Aluminium, which organizations you would be dealing with and how to find them, and other useful information.
- Answer some practical questions which you come across when starting the process of registering a substance.

This document has been written basis our own experience of the registration process. During this process we found there is a lot of information available, but it is challenging to overview the whole process. We aim to clarify this process through this document, where you will find practical information and answers to practical questions.

## 1. REACH Introduction

REACH is a regulation of the European Union, adopted to improve the protection of human health and the environment from the risks that can be posed by chemicals, while enhancing the competitiveness of the EU chemicals industry. REACH also promotes alternative methods for the hazard assessment of substances in order to reduce the number of tests on animals. REACH applies to all chemical substances and it is the responsibility of companies to register and comply to the REACH legislation. If possible companies should seek collaboration with other companies who register the same substance via joint submissions.

REACH stands for Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals. It entered into force on 1<sup>st</sup> June 2007, and consists of different phases of entry until June 2018.

(Source : ECHA website - <http://echa.europa.eu/web/guest/regulations/reach/understanding-reach>)

REACH registration is required when substances are manufactured or imported in(to) the European Union in quantities of more than 1 tonne per annum. Importing into the EU means the material is customs cleared, and ready for free circulation. In the event material is uncleared and it is sold on to a customer in the EU on an uncleared basis, no REACH obligations apply. Registration only comes into play when the material is customs cleared.

## 2. Explanation of terms

When dealing with REACH for the first time, you come across many abbreviations and new terminology. Below we have explained these terms and abbreviations particularly applicable to primary Aluminium. In below table you will find the typical organisations you will be dealing with when registering for primary Aluminium.

Organisation	Definition	Duties
Aluminium REACH Consortium	Formed in 2005 by cooperation between the European Aluminium Association and the International Aluminium Institute to assist the industry to comply with REACH	Responsible for the compilation and assessment of studies and data required for the registration dossier for Aluminium for the joint submission
ECHA	European Chemicals Agency. Founded in 2007, based in Helsinki, Finland	Regulatory authority responsible for implementing the EU chemicals legislation. ECHA's main task is to help companies to comply with this legislation and is mainly responsible for managing the REACH registration

Organisation	Definition	Duties
European Aluminium Association (EAA)	Founded in 1981 and represents the aluminium industry in Europe. Members typically are aluminium producers, downstream manufacturers and producers of recycled aluminium	Engaging with EU legislators and other policy makers to promote Aluminium. Assisting and facilitating the aluminium industry through sharing of expertise, communication and (research) projects. Joins members to apply for REACH joint submission through founding of the Aluminium REACH Consortium
RIVM	Dutch authority, National Institute for Public Health and the Environment	Acting as Dutch national REACH helpdesk (similar organisations exist in each member state)

In below table you will find typical terms and abbreviations which are frequently used when dealing with REACH for Primary Aluminium.

Term	Explanation
CAS Number	Chemical Abstracts Service <a href="http://www.cas.org">http://www.cas.org</a> CAS maintains the most comprehensive list of registered chemical substances. Each substance in the CAS Registry is assigned a CAS registry number. The CAS Registry Number is widely used as a unique identifier of chemical substances. (source: ECHA eChemPortal Phase 2 Glossary) For Primary aluminium : 7429-90-5
EC Name	List name assigned by ECHA. For Primary aluminium : aluminium
EC Number	List number assigned by ECHA. For Primary aluminium : 231-072-3
Inquiry process	Submission of enquiry dossier to ECHA by potential registrants of non-phase-in substances or phase-in substances whom have not yet (pre)-registered their substance. Or submission by registrants who need to modify their application (e.g. apply for the next tonnage threshold). (ECHA doc code PRO-0003.01)
IUCLID	International Uniform Chemical Information Database managed by ECHA. Software application used to capture and store, submit, and exchange data on chemical substances. (ECHA doc code PRO-0003.01)
Late pre-registration	Late pre-registrations have to be submitted within 6 months of producing or importing the substance but no later than 12 months prior to the relevant deadline. (note: for aluminium the late pre-registration period is closed for tonnages above 100mt)
LoA	Letter of Access. Through this LoA you can join the joint submission instead of applying for an individual registration which is more costly. It is required to buy the LoA to obtain a token from (in the case of aluminium) the Aluminium REACH consortium to be part of joint submission for REACH registration of a substance. The token allows access to parts of the joint submission file required for the registration.
Non-phase-in substance	A substance which has not previously been pre-registered

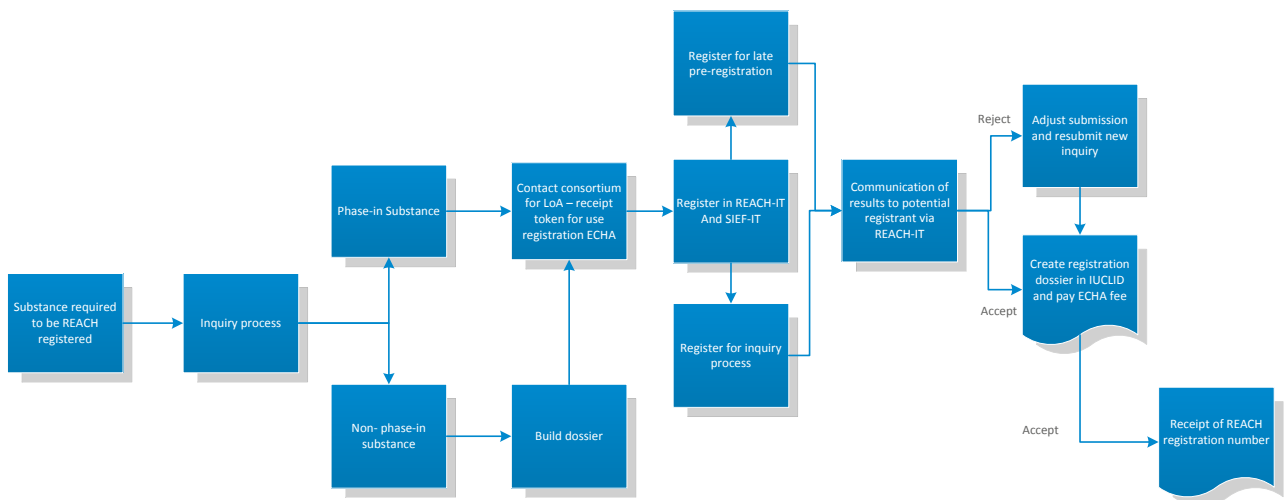
Term	Explanation
OR	Only Representative, represents a non EU producer in the European Union for REACH purposes. Registration of REACH is under OR company's name.
Phase-in substance	A substance which has already been pre-registered
Pre-registration	Period between 1 June – 1 December 2008, allowing potential registrants to submit a joint registration dossier. Pre-registration allows to benefit from extended deadlines. (note: for aluminium the pre-registration period is closed for tonnages above 100mt)
REACH	Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals. Entered into force on 01/06/2007 (regulation (EC) No 1907/2006)
REACH-IT	Online platform to submit and process dossiers under the REACH and CLP (Classification, Labelling and Packaging) regulations managed by ECHA. It also allows ECHA and the Member States authorities to review the dossiers. (ECHA doc code PRO-0003.01)
SDS	Safety Data Sheet. Provides information about a substance for use in the workplace. REACH registered companies are obliged to have an SDS for their registered substances. General SDS for aluminium can be found on the SIEF website or on the Aluminium REACH Consortium website. (source: ECHA Guidance on the compilation of safety data sheets draft version 2.0 Sept 2013)
SIEF	Substance Information Exchange Forum (operational until 01-06-2018). SIEFs are independent and not 'owned' by ECHA. The forum facilitates, for the purpose of registration, the exchange of information between (potential) registrants, aiming to avoid the duplication of studies and tests, and to agree on classification and labelling of substances. To become a participant of the Forum you have to register in SIEF-IT (ECHA/NA/09/08)
SME	Small and Medium size Enterprises. Depending on size of the company determined by certain criteria, a reduced registration fee applies
Token	Access token obtained from EAA to access joint submission data.

### 3. Execution Process

In this section we describe which steps in the process you would be required to follow when you want to register your substance for REACH and secondly, in which situations your substance should be REACH registered. We hope this will somewhat demystify the REACH process and will assist you in your decision making process.

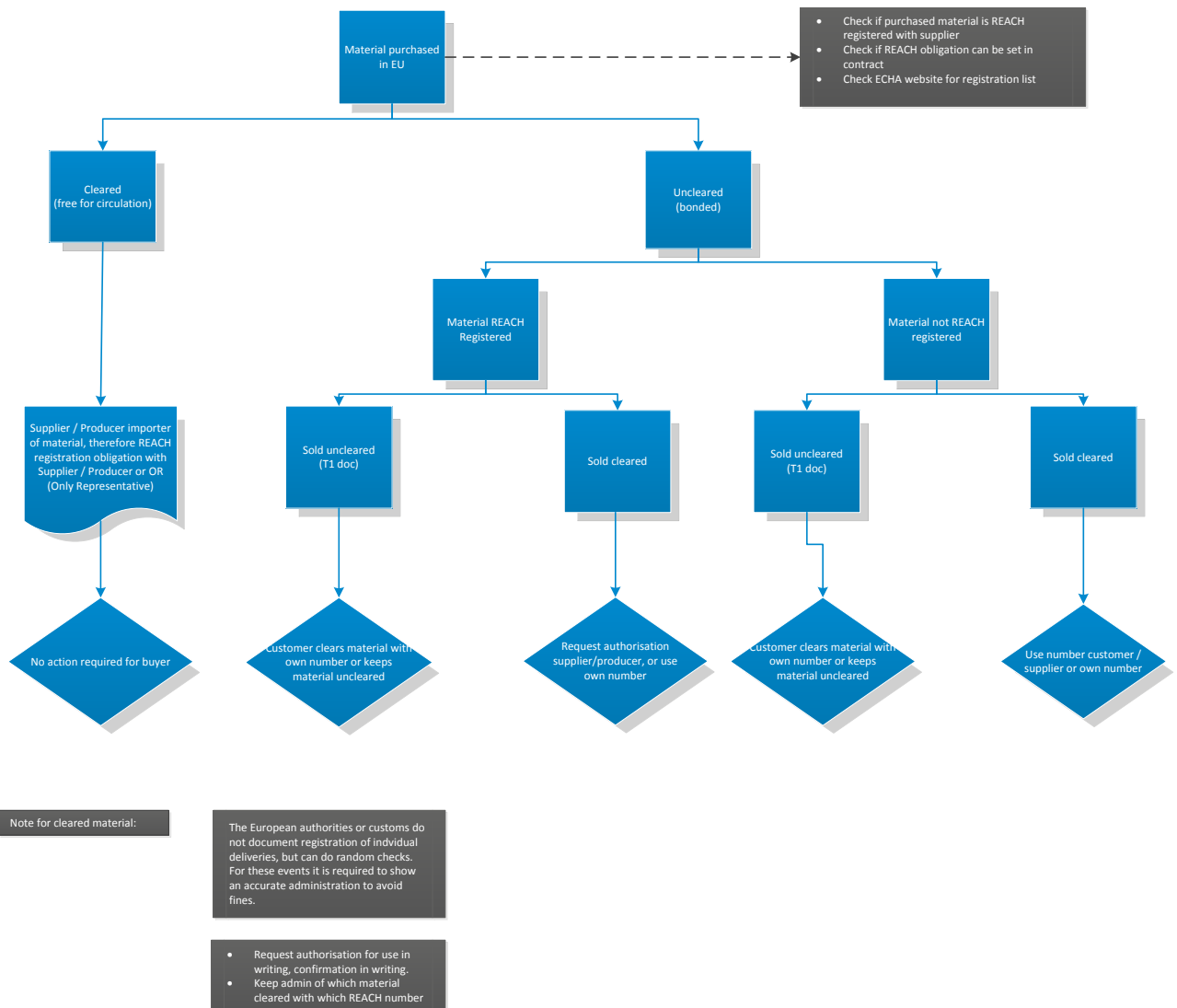
#### 3.1 Registration process (via joint submission)

Typically the aim of the ECHA is to avoid individual submissions for registration, as this is costly and requires extensive testing of the substance. As the REACH legislation came into force in 2007, you can expect many substances have in the meantime been registered. It is therefore likely that you can join a previous registration via a joint submission. These joint submissions have typically been done by consortia. In the case of Aluminium this was done by the Aluminium REACH consortium, guided by the EAA (European Aluminium Association). In order to participate in a joint submission you cannot register directly but have to follow the Inquiry process first. This is for the ECHA to determine whether the substance that you want to register has already been registered via a joint submission. Once the ECHA has accepted the inquiry, you will be provided with information on other registrants of the same substance. You can then continue with the registration process, and refer to joint submitted data in the joint submission. Below flowchart describes in brief the process steps to follow.



### 3.2 Decision Tree

The below diagram shows you in which situation the material requires to be REACH registered when you purchase material in the European Union. The requirement for registration is primarily dependent on the duty status of the material. Should you require your purchased material to be REACH registered, you can stipulate this in your purchase contract with your supplier. It is the supplier who then has the obligation to deliver REACH registered material to you. At this stage REACH is more a self regulated regulation. It is worth noting that customs do not actively check or request REACH registration numbers, however there can be random checks from local authorities on your administration. Fines will be given when you do not comply.





## 4. REACH registration criteria and costs

### 4.1 Total cost components

To obtain a REACH registration for Primary Aluminium, the total costs consist of three parts:

- Registration fee to ECHA.
- Payment to European Aluminium Association (EAA) to obtain a Letter of Access from the Aluminium REACH Consortium.
- SIEF : registration is free of charge, access to particular SIEF until 2018 is a single payment of € 250.

### 4.2 ECHA cost breakdown

The Registration fee due to ECHA is dependent on three factors;

- Whether the registration is done individually or via joint submission.
- The tonnage band for which your substance will be registered. The tonnage band is the total tonnage of the substance your organization is planning on importing into the EU annually.
- The size of your organization determines whether the organization qualifies for reduced fees, which apply to small and medium sized organizations (SME). The size of the organization is determined by the following three factors: the headcount, annual turnover and/or annual balance sheet total. The SME may choose to meet either the turnover or the balance sheet ceiling. It does not need to satisfy both and may exceed one of them without losing its status. In addition, the company needs to determine if it is autonomous, considered a partner or considered linked to another organization, as the results of this organization or organisations need to be taken into account when calculating annual turnover and/or balance sheet total. (source: ECHA website: <http://echa.europa.eu/support/small-and-medium-sized-enterprises-smes/sme-fees-under-reach-and-clp>).

#### 4.2.1 Tonnage bands - annually:

Tonnage range	1 – 10mt	10 - 100mt	100 – 1,000mt	> 1,000mt
---------------	----------	------------	---------------	-----------

Source: Official Journal of the European Union, L79/10, 21-3-2013 Annex I

#### 4.2.2 Determination of organization size:

Enterprise Category	Headcount (annual work unit)	Option to meet one of the two below thresholds	
		Annual Turnover	Annual Balance sheet total
Large (standard)	> 250	> € 50 million	> € 43 million
Medium Sized	< 250	< € 50 million	< € 43 million
Small	< 50	< € 10 million	< € 10 million
Micro	< 10	< € 2 million	< € 2 million

Source: ECHA – applying the new SME definition, p14. [www.echa.europa.eu](http://www.echa.europa.eu)

Company size category	Description
Autonomous	If the company holds less than 25% (capital or voting rights) in another company and no other company holds more than 25% in the organization.
Partner	If the company holds solely or jointly with one or more linked companies at least 25% but no more than 50% in another company, or vice versa.
Linked	If the company holds more than 50% of the members voting rights in another company, or vice versa.

The data of the partner or linked company needs to be added to the overall data of the organization. Refer to the ECHA website for exact calculations.

#### 4.2.3 ECHA registration fees

The registration fees as stated in the below schedule are the latest available fees, checked in March 2014. For the latest fees we advise to check the Official Journals of the European Union.

	Standard (individual)	Standard (joint)	Medium (individual)	Medium (joint)	Small (individual)	Small (joint)	Micro (individual)	Micro (joint)
1 – 10mt	€ 1,714	€ 1,285	€ 1,114	€ 835	€ 600	€ 450	€ 86	€ 64
10 – 100mt	€ 4,605	€ 3,454	€ 2,993	€ 2,245	€ 1,612	€ 1,209	€ 230	€ 173
100 – 1,000mt	€ 12,317	€ 9,237	€ 8,006	€ 6,004	€ 4,344	€ 3,233	€ 616	€ 462
> 1,000mt	€ 33,201	€ 24,901	€ 21,581	€ 16,185	€ 11,620	€ 8,715	€ 1,660	€ 1,245

Source: Official Journal of the European Union L 79/10 – 21.3.2013, Annex I

#### 4.3 Access costs to consortium data

The second part of the cost of registration is to obtain a Letter of Access (LoA) from a Consortium to join a joint submission. In the case of Primary Aluminium, the Aluminium REACH Consortium has been founded. This consortium offers a letter of access instead of a membership of the Consortium. With the LoA, you will obtain a token that gives access to the Aluminium REACH consortium part of the SIEF (Substance Information Exchange Forum) website. Here all relevant information for the REACH registration process can be obtained.

Currently, the costs for this token are €3,100 for tonnages < 1,000mt, and € 7,700 for registration > 1,000mt. For the latest fees, please check the consortium website.

#### 4.4 Example total cost breakdown

Concluding, as an example if the organisation is a standard size organization, joining a joint submission for **tonnage band >1,000mt**, total costs for registration would be:

Cost item	Example cost
ECHA registration fee	€ 24,901
LoA Aluminium REACH consortium	€ 7,700
SIEF registration	€ 250

### 5. Practical Tips & Tricks

We would like to share our most useful experiences with a short list of tips & tricks you may find useful during the registration process.

- Ensure you have registered your company in REACH-IT prior to starting the process.
- Obtain the LoA from EAA (registration + payment to EAA). This will give you access to the consortium area for registration where useful registration information can be found.
- When applying for the inquiry process, ECHA requires an analysis of the material used. If you are not a producer, the best option is to appoint an independent lab to execute analysis for REACH registration purposes. Ensure that the lab states your company name on the certificate. Key to ECHA is that the registrant proves the material it wishes to register is the same as the material of the joint submission. Avoid using generic analysis.
- Ensure UUID (Unique identification number) used in REACH-IT and IUCLID are the same
- Make sure the token received from EAA is still valid when you submit your registration dossier. If validity expired, contact EAA to update the validity period.
- Install IUCLID latest version prior to creating the registration dossier. Familiarize yourself with the use of the system, read the manuals provided by ECHA. Download the database for substances so you can refer to the same substance when creating substance for your dossier. Ensure you have downloaded the checking plug-ins as well.

## 6. Questions & Answers

### 6.1 General

**Q: Is aluminium a phase in substance with registration deadline of Nov 2010?**

A: Yes, therefore if you wish to register for >1,00MT late pre-registration is no longer possible. You have to follow the inquiry process.

**Q: Joint submission for primary aluminium has been done .Is obtaining a LoA via the EAA is mandatory?**

A: Yes, Latest LoA cost can be obtained from the EAA. Once the fee has been paid, you will then receive a token from EAA . This allows access to the joint registration file and SDS for use for your own REACH registration.

### 6.2 Process

**Q: Is the REACH registration number registered with customs / authorities?**

A: Not at the moment. Authorities do not register REACH numbers when clearing / importing material.

**Q: Our understanding is that the REACH registration number is given to authorities when material enters the EU (cleared). How is this tracked when material is sold on as cleared material a number of times? How can you track this as a Buyer of the material?**

A: At this stage no REACH registration numbers are registered during the clearing process. The responsibility lies with the party importing (thus clearing) the material for free circulation into the EU. Hence, cleared material is by definition REACH registered. Definition of importing in the EU legislative text : Import: means the physical introduction into the customs territory of the Community. (p55 regulation (EC) No 1907/2006).

**Q: As a Buyer you want to clear material that is presently uncleared, but you have no REACH registration for this substance. How do you track who to contact to request to use their registration number?**

A: This is not easy to trace. You can contact the producer or the company who you purchased the material from and ask for the authorization to use their REACH number if they have one. Also in contract terms you can state you require REACH registered material (with REACH code provided). Your supplier will then ensure they purchase REACH registered material as well.

**Q: Some warehouses state they require written approval for the use of a third party REACH registration number when clearing material on your behalf. Is this for internal use or is this a requirement from the authorities?**

A: This is not requested by the authorities. The process is self regulated and warehouses / clearing agents will require written approval from the third party not to risk getting penalized in case of a random Customs inspection. Most producers, importers or OR's will only provide authorization for particular parcels only. It is important that you have an accurate administration of REACH registered parcels and identify which registration numbers have been used for which individual parcels.

**Q: In the event of material sold uncleared (under T1) and material leaves EU after being processed without being cleared, if no REACH registration required?**

A: Organizations can process material under exemption from import duties and re-export the material outside the EU again (inward processing). A license for this is required. It is unclear if/how REACH registration fits in. Check with national helpdesk for your specific situation.

**Q: Is there a general SDS available for primary aluminium?**

A: A generic SDS for primary aluminium is available on the SIEF website and on the open part of the Aluminium Consortium website.

### 6.3 Registration

**Q: For primary aluminium, can you late pre-register or do you have to follow the inquiry process?**

A: As the deadlines for late-pre registration for primary aluminium for >1,000MT have passed, you have to follow the inquiry process, after which full registration process (joining the joint submission dossier) will follow.

**Q: When you have registered for a tonnage band of < 1,000 MT, and increase the tonnage, do you have to pay the full fee again for the new band or only the incremental fee?**

A: You only pay the difference between the two tonnage band fees. The manufacturer/importer does not need to stop manufacturing/importing while his update dossier is processed unless otherwise indicated by ECHA. (FAQ 0055 ECHA)

**Q: Can you trade (import) when your organization is not fully registered yet and still in the inquiry/registration process?**

A: After the submission of the registration dossier it may take up to three weeks before ECHA informs the registrant whether his registration is complete or not. Manufacture or import of a substance cannot start before the end of this period and can only start once ECHA has informed the registrant that the registration is complete and a registration number has been assigned. You cannot start trading during the inquiry process or before the ECHA informs the registrant that the registration is complete.

**Q: For the registration process, can information on substance and use of the substance be copied from joint submission?**

A: In principle when you have received the LoA from the consortium this should give you access to parts of the joint submission dossier, allowing you to complete your REACH registration. When in doubt you can always contact the consortium or the national helpdesk. On the SIEF website you will find guidance on company specific parts and a list of uses of your substance.

## 7. Conclusion

When importing Primary Aluminium into the European Union, REACH introduces a degree of complexity. Proper consideration of the below mentioned items needs to be made:

- REACH registration can be costly depending on tonnage and company size.
- A conscious decision on whether to register for REACH or not needs to be made. This depends on your specific import strategy and what degree of flexibility you require when sourcing or procuring material. Not registering could potentially increase your dependency on your counterparts.
- In some instances you can use the REACH registration number of your supplier, but the material may not be sold by the original producer, which can make it more complicated to use the registration number.
- Sound administration will be required as to which materials and volumes are registered under which REACH registration number.

What can Raffemet Commodities BV do for you?

- If this is your first dealing with the REACH regulation, you can contact us to discuss your specific situation.
- As a partner conscious of its obligations, Raffemet Commodities will comply with regulations in line with the agreed delivery terms.
- Raffemet Commodities has obtained its own REACH Registration number, which will allow us to import any brand of primary unalloyed aluminium into the European Union.

## ANNEX

### Useful websites

ECHA	<a href="http://echa.europa.eu/">http://echa.europa.eu/</a>
ECHA list of Aluminium registrants	<a href="http://apps.echa.europa.eu/registered/data/dossiers/DISS-9eb0e19f-e4e7-5137-e044-00144f67d031/DISS-9eb0e19f-e4e7-5137-e044-00144f67d031_DISS-9eb0e19f-e4e7-5137-e044-00144f67d031.html">http://apps.echa.europa.eu/registered/data/dossiers/DISS-9eb0e19f-e4e7-5137-e044-00144f67d031/DISS-9eb0e19f-e4e7-5137-e044-00144f67d031_DISS-9eb0e19f-e4e7-5137-e044-00144f67d031.html</a>
SIEF	<a href="http://www.sief-it.com/">http://www.sief-it.com/</a>
EAA	<a href="http://www.alueurope.eu/">http://www.alueurope.eu/</a>
Aluminium REACH Consortium	<a href="http://www.aluminium-reach-consortium.eu/web/Home.aspx">http://www.aluminium-reach-consortium.eu/web/Home.aspx</a>
Dutch REACH Helpdesk	<a href="http://www.rivm.nl/Onderwerpen/R/REACH_helpdesk">http://www.rivm.nl/Onderwerpen/R/REACH_helpdesk</a>
REACH legislative texts from Aluminium REACH consortium	<p><u>Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006</u> is the central act of the new European chemicals policy. It is often referred to as the "REACH Regulation".</p> <p><u>Directive 2006/121/EC</u> contains technical adaptations of <u>Directive 67/548/EEC</u> that are necessary in the light of the new REACH Regulation (Directive 67/548 concerns the classification, packaging and labelling of dangerous substances and applies in parallel with REACH).</p> <p><a href="http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=CELEX:32006R1907:EN:NOT">http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=CELEX:32006R1907:EN:NOT</a>  <a href="http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=CELEX:32006L0121:EN:NOT">http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=CELEX:32006L0121:EN:NOT</a></p>

**RAFFEMET COMMODITIES B.V.**

WTC The Hague, Office 3.15

Prinses Margrietplantsoen 33

2592 AM The Hague, The Netherlands

T: +31 70 205 57 30

I: [www.raffemet.eu](http://www.raffemet.eu)

E: [info@raffemet.eu](mailto:info@raffemet.eu)