

REACH Standard Customer Letter - October 2008

Dear Customer,

As part of our ongoing commitment to our customers we would like to inform and update you on the progress of The Linde Group with regard to REACH.

The Regulation itself is complex and may have a significant impact on all manufacturers, importers and downstream users of substances within the European Union (EU) e.g. increasing the information flow about substances between participants in the supply chain.

Substances included in Annex IV and V of the REACH regulation which are exempt from the obligation to register are:

Carbon dioxide	Nitrogen	Hydrogen
Oxygen	Xenon	Krypton
Argon	Helium	Neon
Mixtures of these substances		
Medical gases	Food gases	
Natural gas	Liquefied petroleum gas	

As the initial part of the REACH process The Linde Group has pre-registered all "phase-in substances" that we currently either manufacture, import or supply as a Downstream User.

We are approaching the start of the registration phase beginning 1st January 2009.

All the substances that have been pre-registered, including the anticipated registration dates, are available to be viewed at the following URL: www.reach.linde.com

We will contact our customers concerning the applications of the substances which Linde supply according to the anticipated dates of registration.

The Linde Group is fully committed to meeting all its obligations under REACH and will work with suppliers and customers to ensure compliance with this regulation and endeavour to avoid any potential disruption to supply.

We will update you as The Linde Group moves through the registration process.