



R. Spitzke Oberflächen-und Galvanotechnik GmbH & Co KG

To all Customers

Barsbüttel, den 28.09.2023

Dear Customers,

How has the situation developed since the last information letter from September 2017 regarding the future use of chromium trioxide?

Just like our company, many other companies in the industry have also submitted applications for approval to ECHA individually or as a group in order to be able to continue using chromium trioxide even after the so-called "sunset date" (September 21, 2017). Because of the large number of requests for authorization and the associated overload of the authority, a decision is still pending in many cases. Unfortunately, this also applies to the application we submitted for our company. Until the European Commission has made a decision on the application, we can continue the use of chromium trioxide. We remain optimistic that our application will be approved.

According to consistent reports, there has been a turnaround in Brussels in recent months. There should be concrete efforts by the EU Commission to stop the approval requirement for chromium trioxide. Chromium trioxide should therefore be transferred from Annex XIV (authorization requirement) to Annex XVII (no authorization requirement). This positive news is primarily a reaction to the authority's overload in processing the many applications, but not least also a result of the intensive lobbying work in the recent years. An official decision is expected in the next few months.

It can be summarized that chromium trioxide will definitely continue to be used in the next years. It remains to be seen what framework conditions will arise for the industry from this new regulation. We will of course keep you updated about further developments. If you have any further questions, we are happy to help you at any time.

Best regards



Thomas Schüler  
Geschäftsführung