Regulatory Clarity for PVC in Europe

What the Updated REACH Restrictions Roadmap Means for PVC



The regulatory picture has changed

In 2022, the REACH Restrictions Roadmap listed “PVC and its additives” as a broad case for further assessment.

Following the European Chemicals Agency’s (ECHA) investigation, the 2026 Roadmap now points to targeted follow-up on specific additive groups.

No broad REACH restriction identified or scheduled

ECHA did not recommend a general restriction on PVC as a polymer.

The updated Roadmap does not currently identify or schedule a broad restriction on PVC as a polymer or PVC additives as a category.

Current follow-up is targeted at specific substance groups

- C4–C6 ortho-phthalates
  - No identified uses in PVC (except DEHP in medical applications – subject to REACH Authorisation)
  - Subject to a harmonised classification under the Classification, Labelling and Packaging (CLP) Regulation
- Organotin substances
  - Subject to the set-up of an Occupational Exposure Limit (OEL) under the Carcinogenic, Mutagenic and Reprotoxic (CMR) Directive
  - Only very specific uses where transparency and/or high heat stability is needed

VinylPlus estimates that the applications in which DEHP or organotin stabilisers are still used represent approximately 2-5% of PVC volume converted into products in Europe.

Find more resources: **vinylplus.eu/restrictions-roadmap**