

Information on REACH Consortia/Associations

Cobalt

January 2024

General Information	
Name of commodity/association	Cobalt Institute (CI)
Name of consortium/consortia	EU REACH Group
Official launched on (date)	1 st January 2023
Scope (e.g. substances)	30 cobalt substances in total
Contact	REACHinfo@cobaltinstitute.org
Number of members + comment if appropriate	47 Regular members and 8 Associate members (to date), as well as over 100 Letter of Access (LoA) companies.
Minimum fee for consortium	Historic costs applicable to signing up, calculated based on tonnage band and substances. Annual subscriptions fees paid as part of their CI membership. EU REACH costs cover their share of approved EU Science costs. Members pay share of costs for general items based on EU cobalt tonnage band and share of costs for technical studies based on number of substances and the REACH tonnage bands.
Brief description of membership profile (e.g. manufacturers, ORs, companies per legal entity etc.)	Regular members are manufacturers and/or importers and their membership also includes their legal-affiliate companies. The non-EU manufacturers join as the Regular member and (via a Proxy statement) can appoint their Only Representative (OR) to represent them at the EU REACH Group. Downstream User companies and their Association or Sector Group representatives can join the EU REACH Group as a member of CI.



Status and Comments	
Major review of agreement and structure (if relevant)	The Consortium Agreement(s) have now been terminated.
	Several members are multi-national groups of companies and the EU-based legal entities are the ORs in this case. Other non-EU manufacturers have appointed a consultancy company based in the EU as their OR. ORs are not themselves members of the CI. Importers can join CI.
Technical work	Many general studies have been conducted, as well as test work on specific cobalt substances. Further studies are also planned as part of the forward work programme. The Institute updates and maintains the core registration dossiers, the Chemical Safety Reports (CSRs), and the full Exposure Scenarios (in CHESAR format). CI has developed an environmental read-across strategy. The CI has also developed human health route-specific grouping and read-across strategies for the classification of cobalt compounds.
Pre-existence of RA	The cobalt industry did not participate in the initial voluntary risk assessment carried out by several metal commodities. However, CI started a comprehensive research programme of in 2000, many of these studies were in preparation for REACH. The Consortium (now CI EU REACH Group) completed the full chemical risk assessments for the cobalt substances registered for REACH in 2010, 2013 and 2018 deadlines.
Collection of data from DU	The CI Secretariat liaises with many Downstream User Associations, and several Consortia members are members of DU Associations and Sector Groups. The data collection from the DUs started in 2009 for development of Exposure Scenarios. Further data has been collected as part of new studies, and survey projects are conducted to further refine the Exposure scenarios, and to better define the supply chains.
Contacts with other consortia for exchange of data	Data-sharing and/or collaboration agreements are in place with several of the other Metals Consortia and Associations.
Upcoming meetings	The EU REACH Group meets 4 times per year in conjunction with other CI Chemicals Management Meetings.
Support on REACH-type regulations (e.g. Korea, Turkey, UK)	EU Data is available for purchase from the CI, that can be used in all jurisdictions. Additional support is only provided to members within the CI.
Other comments	

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