

NEW SAFETY REQUIREMENTS FOR POLYURETHANE ADHESIVES AND SEALANTS

According to the Dutch Ministry of Social Affairs and Employment, every year, 3,000 Dutch citizens die from illnesses caused by unsafe handling of hazardous substances in the workplace. Many people work with hazardous substances. Do you know which hazardous substances you work with and what these substances can do to you?

On August 3, 2020, the European Commission strengthened the restrictions under REACH to limit the use of polyurethane adhesives and sealants containing more than 0.1% free di-isocyanates monomers. From August 24, 2023, it is mandatory for professional end-users of di-isocyanates to undergo training on the safe handling of these products.

This obligation is a result of a new REACH restriction for workers who come into contact with di-isocyanates and mixtures containing di-isocyanates. During application, di-isocyanates are released, meaning the applicator is directly exposed to them. This exposure can have negative effects on the health of the applicator. However, the application of di-isocyanates is safe when processed in compliance with relevant safety measures. Therefore, the new European legislation requires applicators to be trained in the safe handling of di-isocyanates to ensure the health of the worker.

TWEHA's products are based on different polymer technologies and do not contain di-isocyanates. This means that our products can be used safely, without health risks. This makes TWEHA sealants highly suitable for BREEAM projects or other projects where sustainability is an important criterion.

TWEHA, 2023