

Chemical products must be notified to

The Products Register

To reduce environmental and health risks associated with chemicals, knowledge is required on chemical products – where they are and in what quantities they occur.

The Products Register provides an overview of the use of chemicals in Sweden and is therefore an important tool in controlling the spread of chemicals.

The Products Register has existed since the 1970s and today contains information on more than 150 000 chemical products. Every year the register is updated by around 2 500 companies with an obligation to notify. Examples of information gathered are: function, uses, classification, composition and quantities of products.

This unique information is essential when the Swedish Chemicals Agency (KemI) conducts supervision and produces statistics on chemicals and their use.

Other authorities, researchers, companies, organisations and the general public also frequently make use of data from the Products Register. Data supplied from the Products Register is treated in accordance with the Public Access to Information and Secrecy Act (2009:400).

Activity report to the Products Register

The company must first notify the activity to the Products Register at KemI as soon as possible and no later than when the activity is initiated, regardless of how much of a notifiable product the company manufactures or imports into Sweden.

The company must submit an activity report if it:

1. Professionally manufactures or imports into Sweden certain chemical products or biotechnical organisms,
2. For further transfer in its own name packs, re-packs or changes the name of chemical products or biotechnical organisms,
3. For further transfer makes preparations (mixtures) of chemical products or biotechnical organisms,
4. Manufactures or imports into Sweden chemical pesticides.



Chemical products must be registered in the Products Register. Pesticides must also be approved before they can begin to be sold.

Items 1-4 apply to companies which manufacture or import into Sweden chemical products with statistical tariff codes stated in the annex to the Chemical Products and Biotechnical Organisms Ordinance (2008:245). An activity report form (in Swedish) can be downloaded from www.kemi.se/prforms.

Product report on paper or electronically

The company must submit a product report to the Products Register no later than 28 February in the year after manufacturing or importing has started. A product report relates to each specific chemical product, unlike an activity report. Product reports takes place electronically or on a paper form. To report electronically the company has to have a person with a Swedish identity number. Reports must be submitted by companies covered by notification of activity, see 1-4 above. This applies to notifiable products with a statistical code in accordance with the annex to Ordinance (2008:245) and if the annual volume is at least 100 kg per product. A product report can also be made by a commercial agent, instead of the company with a notification obligation. If so, KemI must give consent for this to be done.

The rules

- Who has a notification obligation: see Chapter 14 Sections 12-14 of the Environmental Code and Sections 3-6 of the Chemical Products and Biotechnical Organisms Ordinance (2008:245).
- What products are notifiable: see annex to Ordinance (2008:245).
- Notification to the Products Register: see Chapter 3 of Swedish Chemicals Agency Regulations KIFS 2008:2.
- For information on the chemical charge: see Chapter 6 of Chemical Charges for Testing and Supervision under the Environmental Code Ordinance (1998:940).
- Provisions on environmental sanction charges and penal provisions: see Environmental Sanction Charges Ordinance (1998:950) and Chapter 29 of the Environmental Code on penal provisions.

Annual updating of notifications

Companies must once a year report the quantity for the previous year, de-notify/re-notify products and report changes in product information and chemical composition.

Annual updating can be done in two different ways depending on whether the company is affiliated to electronic reporting or not:

Companies affiliated to electronic reporting must update product information, quantity and composition electronically no later than 28 February.

Other companies receive an extract from the Products Register at the end of each year containing the company's notified products, known as the Receipt list (Kvittenslista). The company must update the list with quantity data and make any changes directly in the list. The company must return the list to the Products Register no later than 28 February. Product compositions are updated by using the changes in product composition form which can be downloaded from www.kemi.se/prforms.

Possibility of applying for agent consent

A commercial agent can apply for what is known as an agent consent. A company which has an agent consent may then make a product notification instead of the importer of the product into Sweden.

The consent applies for two years and the application is submitted to the Products Register. Note that the commercial agent's clients must always have notified their activity to KemI.

Chemical charge is payable each year

An annual chemical charge must be paid by the companies which are responsible for product notification if the aggregate volume of all the company's notifiable products is at least 1 000 kg. The size of the chemical charge depends on the quantity and the number of products which the company has registered.

Provisions on how the charge is calculated are contained in the Charges for Testing and Supervision under the Environmental Code Ordinance (1998:940). It is also possible to contact KemI with specific questions on the levying of charges.

Sanctions in the event of failure to notify to the Products Register

- KemI may, under Chapter 26 of the Environmental Code, take administrative measures in the form of an injunction combined with a fine for companies which have failed to notify their activity or products.
- A product notification not having been made for a notifiable product defined in Ordinance (2008:245) is also an environmental offence under Chapter 29 Section 5 of the Environmental Code. The offence is termed "obstruction of environmental control" and can lead to the imposition of fines or a term of imprisonment of up to two years.
- An environmental sanction charge can be levied on companies which fail to present the Receipt list in accordance with Section 6.3.3 of the Environmental Sanction Charges Ordinance (1998:950).