



To whom it may concern

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Statement to synthetic microplastics

Dear customer,

The supplied synthetic polymer microparticles are subject to the conditions according to entry 78 of Annex XVII of the REACH Regulation (EC) No. 1907/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council, as amended by Regulation (EU) 2023/2055. The restriction on intentionally added synthetic polymer microparticles came into force on October 17, 2023. The restriction applies to substances and mixtures containing at least 0.01% intentionally added synthetic polymer microparticles.

Various exemptions apply, for example, if the use occurs at industrial sites. Generally, synthetic polymer microparticles that are enclosed by technical means to prevent release into the environment and are permanently integrated into a solid matrix during the intended end use are not affected by the regulation.

Thus, powder coatings can contain synthetic polymer microparticles. They are not restricted but are subject to annual reporting to the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA).

The binders used in the powder coating are based on different chemical bases. Depending on the application, polyesters, epoxides, polyacrylates, polyurethanes, or fluoropolymers are used.

Definition:

Synthetic polymer microparticles are solid polymers that meet both of the following conditions:

- They are contained in particles and make up at least 1% by weight of these particles or form a continuous surface coating on particles;
- At least 1% by weight of the above-mentioned particles meet one of the following conditions:
 - All dimensions of the particles are equal to or less than 5 mm;
 - The length of the particles is equal to or less than 15 mm and the length-to-diameter ratio is greater than 3 mm.

A powder coating consists of 100% solid components. Since all powder coating components are homogeneously mixed together in the extrusion process and then ground into powder, the powder coating in its non-cured state is considered 100% synthetic polymer microparticles.



Use and disposal of powder coating:

To minimize the release of synthetic polymer microparticles, correct application of powder coatings is mandatory. We refer to our processing guidelines available on the IGP website. Powder coatings should only be applied with a suitable extraction system. Residues in the powder container should always be kept sealed.


Regarding proper disposal, we refer to section 13 of the respective safety data sheet.

IGP Pulvertechnik AG is aware of this issue and continuously monitors the latest developments. Our information is based on the data from raw material manufacturers, current laws and regulations, as well as our best knowledge and expertise.

For any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Best regards

IGP PULVERTECHNIK AG


Dominic Spies
Product Conformity Expert


Thomas Lendl
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