

HSK Duschkabinenbau KG provide information about REACH and the addition of lead (PB) to the SVHC list

REACH is the European Chemicals Regulation governing the registration, evaluation, authorisation, and restriction of chemical substances. The abbreviation "REACH" is derived from the English title of the ordinance: *Regulation concerning the **R**egistration, **E**valuation, **A**uthorisation and **R**estriction of **C**hemicals*. The REACH ordinance is regarded as being one of the strictest set of chemical laws in the world. It has been in force since 2007 and it is designed to ensure a high level of protection for human health and the environment. At the same time its objective is to guarantee the free trade in chemicals within the European Union, promoting competition and innovation. REACH is based upon the principle that the manufacturer, importer and downstream users shall assume responsibility for their chemicals. They have to ensure that the chemicals they manufacture and put into circulation can be used safely. (The German Federal Environmental Agency 2018).

On 27.06.2018 a new SVHC (**S**ubstance of **V**ery **H**igh **C**oncern) list was published concerning the European Union's regulations, to which the substance lead (PB) was added. The regulations apply as soon as a component of a product shows an excess of 0.1% of a substance on the SVHC list. They are binding throughout Europe for all sectors of industry, products and their scopes of application. A full list of all corresponding substances is shown in the European Chemical Agency ECHA: <https://echa.europa.eu/de/candidate-list-table>

For the purposes of the above regulations we refer to the fact that our brass components contain more than 0.1 % lead (PB) in volume.

Lead (PB) is used in the production of a large number of metal alloys. At the present point in time it is for technical reasons impractical that lead (PB) would be replaced in the production process. Since lead (PB) is a permanent feature of the components of HSK products as a result of the manufacturing method, it is not expected that it will be left out. For this reason there is no further need to furnish further information on how to keep it safely.

The drinking water regulations are not directly affected by REACH. Suitability for use in connection with drinking water is guaranteed by the classification of materials by the German Federal Environmental Agency on the [4MS materials list](#). HSK only uses materials which are to be used in connection with drinking water if they have been tested, approved and registered by the German Federal Environmental Agency.