



International Material Data System

March 13th, 2018

VEHICLE MANUFACTURERS' POSITION

*Material Data Sheets on Purchased Parts in IMDS*¹

Compliance with the Purchasing Requirements of the Vehicle Manufacturers

Due to national and international legislations producers are responsible for the ecological impact of their vehicles incl. spare parts. End of Life Vehicles legislations in Europe² and other recycling laws, restrictions on chemical substances uses by REACH³ legislation in Europe or worldwide by Basel, Stockholm and Rotterdam (BSR) Convention, TSCA, Cal Prop 65, or conflict minerals declarations are examples for legislations which have cars and often also heavy commercial vehicles in their scopes.

The use of certain substances in vehicle parts may be a risk factor to human health and the environment. Therefore, vehicle manufacturers require declaration of material composition. Declarable and prohibited substances can be found in the GADSL⁴. Information exchange along the vehicle supply chain helps manage those potential risks while also meeting customer requirements.

In order to get in line with these requirements a specific knowledge about the composition of the assemblies including materials and substances is necessary. The International Material Data System (IMDS) was introduced by major car manufacturers in 2000. Since then car and heavy duty commercial vehicle manufacturers (HDCV) worldwide have joined IMDS that has become the common automotive communication system for material data along the supply chain.

Components like engines, produced by vehicle manufactures, are not exclusively used in on-road vehicles, but also in other applications e. g. non road mobile machinery, power generations, marine and railway applications. Those applications are partially in scope of other legislations, e. g. ROHS⁵.

Suppliers in the HDCV supply chain are often SME (Small and medium sizes enterprises) and not traditional automobile suppliers but are also fully effected by this mandatory reporting requirement.

IMDS is a very good tool to enable suppliers and all OEMs to comply with legal substance requirements!

¹ International Material Data System

² Directive 2000/53/EG of the European Parliament and the Council, Sep., 18th 2000, on End of Life Vehicles

³ Regulation on the Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals

⁴ Global Automotive Declarable Substances List, www.gadsl.org

⁵ Directive 2011/65/EU on the Restriction of Hazardous Substances (originally 2002/95/EC)