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**COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION**

**of 16.5.2018**

**granting an authorisation for a use of chromium trioxide under Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council (Safran Aircraft Engines)**

(ONLY THE ENGLISH TEXT IS AUTHENTIC)

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THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 December 2006 concerning the Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals (REACH), establishing a European Chemicals Agency, amending Directive 1999/45/EC and repealing Council Regulation (EEC) No 793/93 and Commission Regulation (EC) No 1488/94 as well as Council Directive 76/769/EEC and Commission Directives 91/155/EEC, 93/67/EEC, 93/105/EC and 2000/21/EC<sup>1</sup>, and in particular Article 64(8) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) Chromium trioxide is listed in Annex XIV to Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006 and is therefore subject to the authorisation requirement referred to in Article 56(1)(a) of that Regulation.
- (2) On 19 February 2016, SNECMA ('the applicant') submitted, in accordance with Article 62 of Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006, an application for authorisation for the industrial use of a chromium trioxide based surface treatment mixture applied on safety-critical rotating components of commercial and military aircraft engines, whose failure endangers airworthiness.
- (3) On 21 February 2017, the Commission received the opinions of the Committee for Risk Assessment (RAC) and the Committee for Socio-economic Analysis (SEAC) of the European Chemicals Agency<sup>2</sup> on the application, pursuant to the second subparagraph of Article 64(5) of Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006.
- (4) In its opinion, RAC confirmed that it is not possible to determine a derived no-effect level (DNEL) for the carcinogenic properties of chromium trioxide in accordance with Section 6.4 of Annex I to Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006 and therefore that chromium trioxide is a non-threshold substance. In accordance with Article 60(3)(a) of Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006, Article 60(2) of that Regulation does not apply to that substance, and therefore an authorisation may only be granted on the basis of Article 60(4) of that Regulation.
- (5) In its opinion, RAC concluded that the risk management measures and operational conditions as described in the application are appropriate and effective in limiting the

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<sup>1</sup> OJ L 396, 30.12.2006, p. 1.

<sup>2</sup> <https://echa.europa.eu/documents/10162/82fef38d-3247-dba9-ca60-1416d6113db6>

risk to workers and to the general population that could potentially be exposed via the environment, provided that they are adhered to along with the suggested monitoring arrangements. However, due to limited availability of static and personal sampling data, as well as biomonitoring data about occupational exposure, RAC recommended that the applicant conducts, in all its sites, regular occupational exposure measurements, representative of all the tasks described in the exposure scenario. Furthermore, RAC recommended measuring environmental emissions of chromium (VI) to air.

- (6) In its opinion, SEAC concluded that the overall socio-economic benefits arising from the use of chromium trioxide applied for outweigh the risks to human health or the environment arising from that use and that there are no suitable alternative substances or technologies in terms of their technical feasibility for the applicant before the sunset date while a detailed assessment of economic feasibility is therefore not relevant in this case. The Commission, having evaluated the SEAC assessment, concurs with these conclusions.
- (7) Therefore, in accordance with Article 60(4) of Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006, it is appropriate to authorise the use of chromium trioxide applied for, provided that the risk management measures and operational conditions described in the application and in particular in the chemical safety report<sup>3</sup> are fully applied.
- (8) In its opinion, SEAC recommended the review period referred to in Article 60(9)(e) of Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006 to be set at ten years. The Commission takes into account the relevant elements from RAC and SEAC assessments, and in particular RAC's assessment of the risk of the continued use of the substance and its conclusion that the implemented risk management measures and operational conditions are appropriate and effective in limiting the risks, the lack of suitable alternatives before the sunset date, the critical nature of the application in terms of safety, the time necessary to develop and implement the identified potentially suitable alternative, which includes the time for testing it and for acquiring the corresponding approval certificates according to the relevant airworthiness regulations, as well as the fact that the socio-economic benefits of continued use outweigh the monetised risk to human health by several orders of magnitude. The Commission concurs with the assessment.
- (9) In view of RAC and SEAC opinions, the Commission considers appropriate that, as regards the use of chromium trioxide applied for, the review period referred to in Article 60(9)(e) of Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006 is set at ten years as from the sunset date set out in Annex XIV to Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006.
- (10) On 21 June 2017 a change of corporate name was notified to ECHA pursuant to which the applicant was renamed from SNECMA to Safran Aircraft Engines. The Commission acknowledges that change.
- (11) The language used for the description of the risk management measures and operational conditions included in the application for authorisation may be different from the official language(s) of the Member State(s) where the use(s) take(s) place. Therefore, in order to facilitate the enforcement of the authorisation, it is appropriate to include a monitoring arrangement requiring the authorisation holder to submit, upon request, a succinct summary of those risk management measures and operational conditions in an official language of the Member State(s) concerned.

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<sup>3</sup> <http://ec.europa.eu/DocsRoom/documents/21700/>

- (12) This Decision does not affect the obligation of the authorisation holder to ensure that the use does not adversely affect human health or the environment pursuant to Article 1(3) of Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006. Furthermore, it does not affect either the obligation of the authorisation holder to ensure that the exposure to the substance is reduced to as low a level as is technically and practically possible pursuant to Article 60(10) of Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006 or the obligation of the employer to reduce the use of a carcinogen or mutagen at the place of work, in particular by replacing it, in so far as is technically possible in accordance with Article 4(1) of Directive 2004/37/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council<sup>4</sup>, or to prevent and reduce exposure in accordance with Article 5 of that Directive. Furthermore, this Decision is without prejudice to the application of the EU Directives in the area of health and safety at work, in particular Council Directive 89/391/EEC<sup>5</sup>, Council Directive 98/24<sup>6</sup>, Directive 2004/37 of the European Parliament and of the Council<sup>7</sup>, Council Directive 92/85/EEC<sup>8</sup> and Council Directive 94/33/EC<sup>9</sup>.
- (13) This Decision is without prejudice to any obligation to comply with emission limit values set in accordance with Directive 2010/75/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council<sup>10</sup> and Directive 2008/50/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council<sup>11</sup>, as well as with emission limit values set to achieve compliance with the environmental quality standards established both in Directive 2008/105/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council<sup>12</sup> and by Member States in accordance with Directive 2000/60/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council<sup>13</sup>. Compliance with the provisions of this Decision should not necessarily result in compliance with emission limit values or environmental quality standards under other Union legislation, which may include separate or more onerous requirements.

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<sup>4</sup> Directive 2004/37/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 29 April 2004 on the protection of workers from the risks related to exposure to carcinogens or mutagens at work (Sixth individual Directive within the meaning of Article 16(1) of Council Directive 89/391/EEC) (OJ L 158, 30.4.2004, p. 50).

<sup>5</sup> Council Directive 89/391/EEC of 12 June 1989 on the introduction of measures to encourage improvements in the safety and health of workers at work (OJ L 183, 29.06.1989, p. 1).

<sup>6</sup> Council Directive 98/24/EC of 7 April 1998 on the protection of the health and safety of workers from the risks related to chemical agents at work (fourteenth individual Directive within the meaning of Article 16(1) of Directive 89/391/EEC) (OJ L 131, 05.05.1998, p. 11).

<sup>7</sup> Directive 2004/37/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 29 April 2004 on the protection of workers from the risks related to exposure to carcinogens or mutagens at work (Sixth individual Directive within the meaning of Article 16(1) of Council Directive 89/391/EEC) (OJ L 158, 30.04.2004).

<sup>8</sup> Council Directive 92/85/EEC of 19 October 1992 on the introduction of measures to encourage improvements in the safety and health at work of pregnant workers and workers who have recently given birth or are breastfeeding (tenth individual Directive within the meaning of Article 16 ( 1 ) of Directive 89/ 391 / EEC) (OJ L 348, 28.11.1992, p. 1).

<sup>9</sup> Council Directive 94/33/EC of 22 June 1994 on the protection of young people at work (OJ L 216, 20.08.1994, p. 12).

<sup>10</sup> Directive 2010/75/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 24 November 2010 on industrial emissions (integrated pollution prevention and control)(OJ L 334, 17.12.2010, p. 17).

<sup>11</sup> Directive 2008/50/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 21 May 2008 on ambient air quality and cleaner air for Europe (OJ L 152, 11.6.2008, p. 1).

<sup>12</sup> Directive 2008/105/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 December 2008 on environmental quality standards in the field of water policy, amending and subsequently repealing Council Directives 82/176/EEC, 83/513/EEC, 84/156/EEC, 84/491/EEC, 86/280/EEC and amending Directive 2000/60/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council (OJ L 348, 24.12.2008, p. 84).

<sup>13</sup> Directive 2000/60/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 October 2000 establishing a framework for Community action in the field of water policy (OJ L 327, 22.12.2000, p. 1).

- (14) The measures provided for in this Decision are in accordance with the opinion of the Committee established under Article 133 of Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

*Article 1*

An authorisation is granted in accordance with Article 60(4) of Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006 for the following use of chromium trioxide (EC No 215-607-8; CAS No 1333-82-0), provided that the risk management measures and operational conditions described in the chemical safety report submitted pursuant to Article 62(4)(d) of that Regulation are fully applied:

Authorisation number	Authorised use
REACH/18/5/0	Industrial use of a chromium trioxide based surface treatment mixture applied on safety-critical rotating components of commercial and military aircraft engines, whose failure endangers airworthiness

*Article 2*

1. As regards the authorised use of chromium trioxide, the review period referred to in Article 60(9)(e) of Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006 shall expire on 21 September 2027.
2. The authorisation REACH/18/5/0 shall cease to be valid on 21 September 2027 in case a review report in accordance with Article 61(1) of Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006 has not been submitted by 21 March 2026, unless a decision to withdraw the authorisation is adopted earlier in application of Article 61(2) and (3) of that Regulation.

*Article 3*

The following monitoring arrangements shall apply:

- (a) the authorisation holder shall submit, upon request, to the competent authority of the Member State where the authorised use takes place a succinct summary of the applicable risk management measures and operational conditions described in the chemical safety report in an official language of that Member State;
- (b) the authorisation holder shall conduct regular occupational exposure measurements related to the use described in Article 1 in all of its sites. Those measurements shall:
  - (i) take place at least annually;
  - (ii) be based on relevant standard methodologies or protocols;
  - (iii) be representative of the range of all the tasks with possible exposure to chromium trioxide and of the total number of workers that are potentially exposed;
  - (iv) include contextual information about the tasks with possible exposure to chromium trioxide;

- (c) the authorisation holder shall measure emissions to the air of chromium (VI) from all applicants' sites;
- (d) the information gathered in the monitoring required by points (b) and (c) including contextual information shall be used to regularly review the effectiveness of the risk management measures and operational conditions and to take action, as appropriate to further reduce workers' exposure to chromium trioxide; that information, as well as the outcome and conclusion of the review of the risk management measures and operational conditions shall be documented and, upon request, be submitted to the competent authority of the Member State(s) where the authorised uses take place;
- (e) the results of the measurements required by points (b) and (c), as well as the outcome and conclusions of the review and any actions taken, as described in point (d), shall be included in the review report referred to in Article 61(1) of Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006.

*Article 4*

This Decision is addressed to Safran Aircraft Engines, 2 Boulevard General Martial Valin, 75724 Paris cedex 15, France.

Done at Brussels, 16.5.2018

*For the Commission*  
*Elżbieta BIENKOWSKA*  
*Member of the Commission*

