

## Press Release

# Silicon industry REACH consortium in operation

The ferro-alloys trade association announces that the consortium for silicon metal, ferro-silicon alloys and silica fumes entered into operation as of 5 April 2008.

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The Brussels-based ferro-alloys trade association Euroalliages is pleased to announce that **silicon metal, ferro-silicon alloys and silica** fumes now have their own dedicated consortium to handle registration under REACH. This is the fruit of more than one year's intense collaboration, with Euroalliages providing a much-used web tool that allowed the development of the Consortium Agreement.

To date, 16 European and non-European companies have signed the Consortium agreement, whilst at least 10 more metal producers, chemical companies or importers are expected to join before the deadline of 1 May 2008. After that date, a 10% penalty for late entrants will be added to the 14,000 EUR entrance fee per product group.

The setting-up of the consortium will be formally finalised at a General Assembly meeting of the consortium, to be held in Brussels in mid-June 2008.

Euroalliages will share part of the daily operations of the consortium with an independent trustee.

The Consortium is set up in such a way that the cost structure is very transparent, with a clear distinction being made between the costs of setting up and managing the consortium and the costs involved in collecting and developing data. This distinction is also reflected in the fee structure, where the companies will share the management costs equally, but will be charged for product-specific costs according to a tonnage band. This tonnage band will be based on the tonnage that the member reports to the Consortium trustee as the tonnage he produces or imports into the EEA.

Three technical working groups, one for each product, are already in operation to assist members for pre-registration this year, and to initiate the necessary research in time for registration by 1 December 2010.

Euroalliages is also involved in the setting-up of a consortium for **ferrosilicocalcium alloys** via a service agreement with the CaSi Institute. The official launch of this consortium is imminent.

More information can be obtained from:

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[Euroalliages REACH site](#)