

# Information on REACH Consortia

## Cobalt

9<sup>th</sup> June 2020

General Information	
<b>Name of commodity</b>	The Cobalt Institute (CI) Cobalt REACH Consortium Ltd. (CoRC)
<b>Name of consortium/consortia</b>	Cobalt REACH Consortium [Blue, Red, Green]
<b>Official launched on (date)</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> November 2007
<b>Scope (e.g. substances)</b>	28 cobalt substances in total: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Blue Consortium – cobalt metal/powder</li> <li>• Red Consortium – inorganic cobalt compounds</li> <li>• Green Consortium – cobalt carboxylates</li> </ul>
<b>Number of members + comment if appropriate</b>	46 Regular members and 8 Associate members (to date), as well as over 100 members of the Letter of Access (LoA) option.
<b>Minimum fee for consortium</b>	Signing-on fee dependent on tonnage. Annual subscription fees and share of approved Science costs. Members pay share of costs for general studies based on EU cobalt tonnage and share of costs for technical studies based on number of substances and the REACH tonnage bands.
<b>Brief description of membership profile (e.g. manufacturers, ORs, companies per legal entity etc.)</b>	Regular members are manufacturers and/or importers and their membership also includes their legal-affiliate companies. The non-EU manufacturers join as the Regular member and (via a Proxy statement) can appoint their Only Representative (OR) to represent them at the Steering Group.  Downstream User companies and their Association or Sector Group representatives can join the Consortium as an Associate member.



Status and Comments	
<b>Major review of agreement and structure (if relevant)</b>	<p>The Consortium Agreement(s) have undergone five sets of revisions related to new definitions and clarifications. The most recent changes relate to greater flexibility for meetings and voting procedures</p> <p><i>Specimen copies of the Agreements are provided on request to the Secretariat.</i></p>
<b>“OR” and “importers” in consortium/a</b>	<p>Several consortia members are multi-national groups of companies and the EU-based legal entities are the ORs in this case. Other non-EU manufacturers have appointed a consultancy company based in the EU as their OR.</p>
<b>Technical work</b>	<p>Many general studies have been conducted, as well as test work on specific cobalt substances. Further studies are also planned as part of the forward work programme. The Consortium has developed and maintains the core registration dossiers, the Chemical Safety Reports (CSRs), and the full Exposure Scenarios (in CHESAR format). The Consortium has also developed a grouping and read-across strategy for the classification of cobalt compounds. The status of this work is posted on the CoRC website.</p>
<b>Pre-existence of RA</b>	<p>The cobalt industry did not participate in the initial voluntary risk assessment carried out by several metal commodities. However, the CI has been carrying out a comprehensive programme of studies since 2000, many of these in preparation for REACH. The Consortium has completed the full chemical risk assessments for the cobalt substances registered for REACH in 2010, 2013 and 2018 deadlines.</p>
<b>Collection of data from DU</b>	<p>The Consortia Secretariat liaises with many Downstream User Associations, and several Consortia members are members of DU Associations and Sector Groups. The data collection from the DUs started in 2009 for development of Exposure Scenarios. Further data has been collected as part of new studies, and survey projects are conducted to further refine the Exposure scenarios, and to better define the supply chains.</p>
<b>Pre-registration</b>	<p>Many cobalt substances were pre-registered by the Consortium members. The CoRC Secretariat is coordinating the on-going communications with the SIEFs for the cobalt consortium substances.</p>
<p><b>SIEF</b></p> <p><b>Has one of your members ticked the “SIEF facilitator” box?</b></p> <p><b>Proposed lead registrant</b></p>	<p>Specific members of the Cobalt consortia volunteered as the SIEF formation facilitator for the cobalt consortium substances. The Steering Group has appointed candidates for the Lead Registrant roles from within the Consortium membership.</p>



<b>Contacts with other consortia for exchange of data</b>	Data-sharing and/or collaboration agreements are in place with several of the other Metals Consortia and Associations.
<b>Upcoming meetings</b>	The Steering Group and the technical Working Group meet twice a year, as a minimum. Meetings can now be held in person, by video link or teleconference. The technical sub-groups and project teams meet more regularly. The Executive Committee meets monthly by telecon to discuss the Consortium work and activities.
<b>Other comments (if relevant)</b>	The Consortia and the Secretariat are actively following the developments relating to the Authorisation/Restriction processes of REACH. This activity includes engagement of other industry stakeholders, coordinated participation in the public consultations, and advocacy efforts with the Member States and EU Commission.

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