

Information on Secrecy

The Products Register is an important tool for the Swedish Chemicals Agency as well as for other authorities monitoring public health, workplace safety and environmental protection. The register gives us an overview of the use of chemicals in Sweden functions as a basis for the chemicals management. It also enables us to produce statistics and provide data for official statistics for Statistics Sweden.

The register contains information about uses, classification and the chemical contents of the products. The composition is described by the chemical substances and their respective exact percentage by weight. It is mandatory to report all substances considered hazardous to health and/or environment, as well as all other substances that make up at least 5% of the content (Swedish Chemical Agency's Chemical products and biotechnical organisms regulations (KIFS 2008:2) Chapter 3).

The regulations on secrecy applicable to the Swedish Chemicals Agency are contained in the Public Access and Secrecy Act (2009:400) and in the Ordinance (2009:641) section 9 and Annex to the Ordinance, points 46 and 82.

Secrecy applies to information such as composition data, quantities and supplier name, since the omission would disclose individuals' operational and business conditions etcetera (Public Access and Secrecy Act (2009:400) Chapter 30, section 23). Only registry staff at the Swedish Chemicals Agency are authorised to register and retrieve product information in the database. Each request to obtain information in the database is handled separately and after a secrecy assessment has been made.

Companies submitting data to the Products Register only have access to their own data. Any information provided by other parties, for example a supplier in another country, is protected by a security marking in the database and is therefore only available to the registry staff at the authority.

Confidential information may be communicated to another public authority if it is evident that the interest of information being disclosed prevails over the interest which the secrecy intends to protect (Public Access and Secrecy Act (2009:400) Chapter 10, section 27).