Translation for information purposes / Original: German

VdMi – Information circular from FG EGK regarding the use of low-melting glass colours

2nd updated version – status: June 2015, reviewed May 2017

New evaluation of boron- and zinc-containing frits

Within the REACH implementation process and its requirements, VdMi member companies carried out additional testing of special boron-containing frits which are used in the manufacture of automotive glass colours and container glass colours and in other special fields of application. Outstanding features of these frits with SiO_2 content under 30% are their particularly low melting ranges. This makes them suitable especially for very short firing cycles at low temperatures, as they are necessary in these applications.

These frits underwent extra testing, in particular a leaching test (OECD 29). This test showed that the frits, when in contact with water, release boron and zinc shares from the glass matrix. Consequently, in future these frits need to be classified as hazardous substances (toxic to reproduction cat. 2[1], hazardous to the aquatic environment, acute cat. 1/chronic cat. 2), so that they require labelling according to the CLP Regulation.

For the above reason, manufacturers of these frits are under the obligation to pass on these items of information to their customers by way of updated labels and safety data sheets (according to Article 31(9) of the REACH Regulation and Articles 4 and 30 of the CLP Regulation).

Given their good stability together with low solubility, boron-containing frits with SiO_2 content over 30% remain unclassified as hazardous under the CLP Regulation (EU) No 1272/2008. Therefore, they are exempted from registration according to Annex V(11) of the REACH Regulation (EU) No 1907/2006.

[1] Classification based on that of zinc borate

Mainzer Landstraße 55
60329 Frankfurt
www.vdmi.de
info@vdmi.vci.de
Telefon: 069 - 2556 - 1351
Telefax: 069 – 2556 - 1250