



Customer Information Note

Classification of Araldite® PT910/912 and Powder coatings as toxic for reproduction

Last year the manufacturer of the hardener Araldite® PT910/912 informed the powder coating manufacturers about ongoing toxicological studies, which indicate that the substance might be toxic to reproduction. The evolution of the study tended to confirm this suspicion such that the manufacturer felt obliged to now reclassify the substance as **toxic for reproduction, category 1B** with the hazard statement **360F "May damage fertility"**.

This reclassification was recently communicated to the powder coating manufacturers in new safety data sheets.

The new classification of the hardener means that the classification of powder coatings containing this hardener in certain concentrations will also change. Powder coatings containing more than 0.3 % PT910/912 will therefore in future also be classified as toxic for reproduction, category 1B, and in addition to the H-phrase 360F will for the first time also display the CLP hazard pictogram "Systemic health hazards":



H360F „May damage fertility“

The manufacturers of powder coatings are obliged by law to classify and label their products "without undue delay" so that it can be assumed that the powder coatings concerned will be delivered with the new classification in due course.

As part of their product stewardship, the manufacturers of powder coatings will examine, whether replacement of the hardener with less hazardous substances is feasible. According to the current state of knowledge, substitution is possible in many cases; in certain cases quality losses might be observed. This applies in particular to clear coats in vehicle applications as well as powder coatings for agricultural and construction machines.

In accordance with the REACH regulation both, powder coating manufacturers and powder coating users are obliged to make sure and prove that the products can be handled safely when using carcinogenic, germ cell mutagenic or reprotoxic substances (so called cmr substances). Essential elements for this are the respective hazard and risk assessments of the individual converters, in which the actual exposures must be adjusted to the requirements of the current substance classifications; if necessary, appropriate extended occupational safety measures must be taken. Powder coating manufacturers are prepared to support their customers in the preparation of hazard and risk assessments.