



## The United States Mission to the European Union

<http://useu.usmission.gov> **Brussels, Belgium**

March 17, 2007

# Chemicals

### Latest News

U.S. reservations about the European Union's (EU's) proposed regulatory framework for chemical substances were expressed June 8 by U.S. Ambassador to the EU C. Boyden Gray.

<http://useu.usmission.gov/Article.asp?ID=8496693F-0E3D-41A8-9653-5B23FC71713A>

**June 9, 2006**

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## **EU's Proposed Chemical Rules Could Disrupt Trade, U.S. Envoy Says**


Gray, speaking at an event in Brussels, Belgium, organized by the American Chamber of Commerce to the EU, expressed "serious concerns" about the workability of REACH – the EU's proposed system for registration, evaluation and authorization of chemicals – and its potentially disruptive effect on international trade. According to the EU, REACH is intended "to improve the protection of human health and the environment while maintaining the competitiveness and enhancing the innovative capability of the EU chemicals industry." It also is intended to "give greater responsibility to industry" to manage chemical risks and hazard communication. In addition, it would create a new European Chemicals Agency to administer the new regulatory system.

**The United States has joined with Australia, Brazil, Chile, India, Israel, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Mexico, Singapore, South Africa and Thailand in calling on the EU to seek more input from interested parties, especially those outside the EU, and review the legislation with a eye toward eliminating unnecessary overlaps and inconsistencies, and revisit the scope of proposed chemical authorizations and registrations.**

*-Commission Response to EU Trading Partners on REACH (Aug 1, 2006) page 1 and page 2*

*-Statement by EU Trading Partners (Jun 8, 2006)*

*-Amb. Gray Statement (Jun 8, 2006)*

- **EU's Proposed Chemical Rules Could Disrupt Trade, U.S. Envoy Says (Jun 9, 2006)**
- [Report Outlines Hazards to Children Posed by Toxic Exposures \(May 25, 2006\)](#)
- [U.S. Proposes Zero Tariffs for Medicine, Medical Devices at WTO \(Feb 27, 2006\)](#) 
- [U.S. Agencies Welcome Congressional Progress on Chemical Treaty \(Dec 20, 2005\)](#)
- [U.S. Participating in Uruguay Conference on Hazardous Chemicals \(Apr 29, 2005\)](#)
- [New Tracking Tool Available for Chemical Health Database \(Nov 12, 2004\)](#)
- [Global Regulatory System for Chemicals Under Review \(Aug 27, 2004\)](#)
- [U.S. Voices Concerns over Latest EC Chemicals Proposal \(Jun 23, 2004\)](#)
- [U.S. and 11 Other Nations to Use Methyl Bromide Through 2005 \(Mar 27, 2004\)](#)
- [Ries Cites U.S., EU Efforts to Reconcile Regulatory Approaches \(Oct 17, 2003\)](#)

- U.S. Remains Committed to Partnership with "United Europe" (Jul 22, 2003)

- **Foreign Trade Standards Often Ignore Science, U.S. Group Says (May 6, 2003)**

### Major Statements & More

- EU's Proposed Chemical Rules Could Disrupt Trade, U.S. Envoy Says (Jun 9, 2006)
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