

Hempel rolls out improved safety information

As one of the first paint companies, Hempel is now ready to introduce Safe Use Mixture Information (also called SUMIs) on all products. This new information will together with the product and safety datasheets enable you to plan the safest process for your paint application.



SUMIs: key info for customers



What is a SUMI?

SUMI stands for “Safe Use Mixture Information”. This one-page document gives you more facts and figures than you will find in a Safety Data Sheet (SDS), including:



- The application method (spray, brush, roller)
- Outdoor/indoor use
- Ventilation requirements
- Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) requirements, such as chemical resistant gloves and respiratory masks
- Duration of use



Who are SUMIs for?

SUMIs are for industrial and professional use only. They are designed to help draw up risk assessments and make informed decisions about how to use coatings safely in a particular site, bearing in mind how many times per year the product in question is used, for how many hours per day, and the PPE that is available.



Where are SUMIs needed?

SUMIs are required in the EU.

When will SUMIs come into use?

Launch is planned for the Marine and Protective sectors in Q3 2019.

Why are SUMIs being introduced?

SUMIs are part of the EU REACH requirements around communicating safe use of products. REACH demands that substances' safety information be passed down the entire supply chain. As a result, we have put a procedure in place: raw material suppliers send us extended SDSs with exposure scenarios and we consolidate that information for our products in SUMIs.

The rationale behind this initiative is to improve:

- Communication (current SDSs do not include information on Risk Management Measures)
- Information (providing the best circumstances for safe use)
- Layout (SUMIs have a customer-friendly design and pictograms are used to show requirements)

Some products will have several SUMIs, up to a maximum of eight. They are short, precise and suited to each use set-up (with recommendations about ventilation and PPE, for instance).

What should you do if Hempel's SUMI doesn't cover your particular usage?

As a customer, you are responsible for safe use at your site and you are in the best position to create your own risk assessment. If you are in doubt, you are welcome to contact us at hempel@hempel.com

Make sure you check out what SUMIs can do for you!