

January 1, 2017

**INFORMATION FOR OUR CUSTOMERS –  
Corning Optical Fiber status with respect to the EU REACH Regulation and in particular to  
glass articles**

Corning Optical Fiber considers the protection of the environment, natural resources and health as some of its most important business tasks. Corning Optical Fiber devotes significant efforts and resources to the development of clean and safe products and processes, and therefore concurs with the aim of the European Union's Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals (REACH) Regulation (1907/2006/EC).

Optical fiber is a glass product, which is considered an "Article" according to the definition of the REACH Regulation. Articles are subject to Articles 7 and 33 of the REACH Regulation. Glass products made by Corning Optical Fiber do not contain substances that are intended to be released under normal and foreseeable circumstances and are therefore not concerned by Article 7.1 of the REACH Regulation.

Article 7.2 of the REACH Regulation requires notification of substances in certain products, if such substances are of high concern, exceed 0.1% (expressed as weight to weight, or w/w) and exceed 1 ton/year per importer or producer. Article 33.1 of the REACH Regulation requires a supplier to inform its customers if the article contains a substance of high concern, and the following should be noted:

Glass is treated as a UVCB substance<sup>1</sup> under REACH and is in principle exempted from the REACH Regulation (see Annex II of Commission Regulation 987/2008 for Annex V exemption 11). Furthermore, glass is not classified as a hazardous substance and it is unlikely ever to be listed on the list of substances of high concern.

Based on the current list of chemicals in 2015, Corning Optical Fiber has a substance in our finished product which is listed on the "Candidate List" or "SVHC (Substances of Very High Concern) List" updated by ECHA (European Chemical Agency) on December 17, 2015. Corning Optical Fiber determined it is possible for ethoxylated 4-Nonylphenol (NPEO), branched and linear, to be present in the optical fiber just above the 0.1% (w/w) threshold. Our investigation indicates that the NPEO is present only in the optical fiber coating. However, since optical fiber is a low weight percentage of telecommunications optical fiber cable (fiber is typically < 20% by weight of the cable), Corning Optical Fiber estimates its customers who make cable products will not have NPEO exceed 0.1% by weight in cable; therefore, Corning Optical Fiber customers are expected to have no customer notification requirements. Customers will need to perform their own analysis to confirm these estimates. Corning Optical Fiber continues to look for improvement of its products while protecting the environment. As always, Corning Optical Fiber will closely monitor REACH regulations and keep our customers informed of changes.

This letter and its content are applicable to all Corning<sup>®</sup> optical fiber (natural and colored) products listed below:

Corning ClearCurve<sup>®</sup> XB Fiber  
Corning ClearCurve<sup>®</sup> LBL Fiber  
Corning ClearCurve<sup>®</sup> ZBL Fiber  
Corning SMF-28<sup>®</sup> Ultra Fiber  
Corning SMF-28e+ Photonic Fiber

For any further questions, please feel free to contact your sales representative.



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<sup>1</sup> Substance of unknown or variable composition, complex reaction products or biological materials