

UPDATED STATEMENT ON THE SAMENESS OF IRON AND IRON, FURNACE

In March 2009, the Iron Platform, the REACH Consortium for Iron, and EUROFER, the European Confederation of Iron & Steel Industries issued the following joint statement:

“After extensive deliberations among themselves and with industry participants, Eurofer, the trade association for the European steel industry, and the Iron Platform, a consortium established by the International Pig Iron Association and others for companies needing to register iron and iron substances under the REACH legislation, have determined that, whilst Iron [Einecs number 231-096-4] and Iron, Furnace [Einecs number 265-998-4] are essentially the same substance for the purposes of REACH, there are still some differences between them which could give rise to classification and labelling issues.

It has therefore been concluded that, until confirmed otherwise, Iron and Iron, Furnace do not meet the full criteria for “sameness” and that therefore their respective SIEF’s should retain their separate identities. Notwithstanding this position, much of the work towards registration of the two substances is identical in nature and therefore there is considerable scope for co-operation between the two SIEF’s. Should it be established eventually that the two substances do satisfy the full criteria for sameness, then a merger of the two SIEF’s will be considered.”

After further exhaustive discussions and consultations with expert consultants and industry participants, it has now been definitively concluded that Iron [Einecs number 231-096-4] and Iron, Furnace [Einecs number 265-998-4] can indeed be considered as the same substance for the purposes of REACH and that therefore the two SIEF’s should be combined as Iron [Einecs number 231-096-4, CAS number 7439-89-6]. “Iron” will therefore cover elemental iron, iron produced in a blast furnace or direct reduction plant, iron powders and carbonyl iron. Each form of iron will be considered individually for classification.

The agreed sameness specification for Iron is as follows:

Chemical analysis	Value
Fe	>80.0%

No impurities present which would give rise to classification and labelling issues.

Steps will be taken to merge the Iron and Iron, Furnace SIEF’s. For those intending to register Iron there will be no change; those intending to register Iron, Furnace will need to change their registration accordingly [appropriate guidance will be provided].

The Lead Registrant, ArcelorMittal, will be creating the Joint Submission in the very near future. Details of the Iron Platform Letter of Access can be found on the [Letter of Access page](#) on the Iron Platform website.

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