Consumer Products

HCT-202611-06

# EU Updates Restrictions on Lead in REACH Annex XVII

On 13 November 2026, Regulation (EU) 2026/2501 was officially published in the Official Journal of the European Union, amending the restrictions on lead under Annex XVII to the REACH Regulation. The new Regulation will enter into force 20 days after its publication. The specific requirements are as follows:

In Annex XVII to Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006, the following paragraphs are added in entry 63, column 2:

| Substance | Proposed restrictions |
|---|---|
| 63<br>Lead<br>CAS No.: 7439-92-1<br>EC No.: 231-100-4<br>and its compounds | 21.Shall not be placed on the market for any fishing, or used for commercial fishing, in a concentration of lead (expressed as metal) equal to or greater than 1 % by weight:<br>(a)in sinkers and in lures weighing 50 g or less, and not covered by point (c) of this paragraph, from 3 December 2029;<br>(b)in sinkers and in lures weighing 1 kg or less, but more than 50 g, and not covered by point (c) of this paragraph, from 3 December 2031;<br>(c)in fishing wires and in drop-in sinkers, from 3 March 2027.<br><br>22.From 3 March 2027, retailers of fishing sinkers and lures of any dimension or weight, containing lead in concentrations equal to or greater than 1 % by weight, shall clearly and visibly display the following information, at the point of sale and in close proximity to the products mentioned above or, in the case of distance sales, in the distance sales offer:<br>“ WARNING: this product contains lead which is very toxic to the environment and may damage fertility or the unborn child. The placing on the market and use of lead in the fishing tackle listed below is restricted in the EU from:<br>—3 December 2029 for sinkers and lures weighing 50 g or less;<br>—3 December 2031 for sinkers and lures weighing 1 kg or less, but more than 50 g;<br>—3 March 2027 for fishing wires and drop-in sinkers of any weight.<br>More information, including on the availability of lead-free alternatives, is available at [www.echa.europa.eu].”<br>The information referred to in the first subparagraph shall be in the official languages of the Member State where the point of sale is established or, in the case of distance sales, in the official languages of the Member State where the distance sale is offered, unless the Member State concerned provides otherwise regarding those languages.<br><br>23.By way of derogation, paragraphs 21 and 22 shall not apply to:<br>(a)lures made of copper alloys containing a concentration of lead (expressed as metal) less than 3 % by weight; |

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| | (b)split shot weighing 0,06 g or less that is placed on the market in spill-proof and child-resistant packaging.<br>The derogations referred to in points (a) and (b) shall be reviewed by the Commission, based on a report produced by the Agency, after 3 December 2036.<br><br>24.By way of derogation, paragraph 21, points (a) and (b), shall not apply to the use of fishing sinkers and lures placed on the market in the Union before, respectively, 3 December 2029 and 3 December 2031.<br><br>25.Member States may maintain national provisions for the protection of the environment or human health that are stricter than provided for in paragraphs 21-24, provided those measures fulfil both of the following conditions:<br>(a)they are in force on 3 December 2026;<br>(b)they restrict only the use but not the placing on the market of lead in lures, sinkers and fishing wires.<br><br>26.Member States shall communicate the text of the national provisions referred to in paragraphs 25 to the Commission without delay. The Commission shall make publicly available without delay any such texts of national provisions received by it.<br><br>27.For the purposes of paragraphs 21 to 26:<br>(a) “sinker” means a weight that is attached or intended to be attached to a fishing line, a lure or a fishing net to keep it under the water, or in a certain position, but not a weight that is enclosed, embedded or threaded in a fishing net or a line;<br>(b) “lure” means an object that is used to attract fish or other animals, so that they can be caught;<br>(c) “fishing wire” means a thin thread of metal that is intended to be cut in short pieces and used as a weight to keep lures under the water;<br>(d) “drop-in sinker” means a sinker that is intended to be deliberately released during use;<br>(e)“split shot” means a sinker made of a small piece of metal that is pinched around the fishing line to add weight to it;<br>(f) “commercial fishing” means fishing for profit and not for recreational purposes;<br>(g)“fishing tackle” means equipment, including sinkers, lures and fishing wires, used in commercial or recreational fishing. |

Original Link:https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=OJ:L_202602501

## HCT SOLUTION:

This revision primarily introduces new restrictions on the use of lead in fishing gear. We advise relevant enterprises to conduct compliance assessments of their products and supply chains as soon as possible to identify potential risks and ensure that their products meet EU regulatory requirements.

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