



## **Biopolymer International position regarding Xanthan Gum and Gellan Gum under the REACH Regulation**

The European Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals Regulation<sup>1</sup>, commonly referred to as REACH, places an obligation on European manufacturers and importers to register their substances in order to continue production in or import into the European market for uses that are subject to REACH registration.

After in-depth evaluation of the REACH Regulation, Biopolymer International concluded that:

1. Xanthan gum and gellan gum are exempt from the REACH registration as they are polymers.
2. No monomers relating to xanthan gum and gellan gum need to be registered under REACH because:
  - Glucose, the starting monomer, is listed in Annex IV of the REACH Regulation and as such is exempt from REACH registration.
  - All other monomeric units and corresponding monomers can be verified as non-isolated intermediates and as such are also exempt from REACH registration.
3. For surface treated products, such as glyoxylated xanthan gum, only the glyoxal needs to be registered, with the inclusion and evaluation of the use “surface treatment” in the registration dossier.

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<sup>1</sup> Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 December 2006 concerning the Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals (REACH), establishing a European Chemicals Agency, amending Directive 1999/45/EC and repealing Council Regulation (EEC) No 793/93 and Commission Regulation (EC) No 1488/94 as well as Council Directive 76/769/EEC and Commission Directives 91/155/EEC, 93/67/EEC, 93/105/EC and 2000/21/EC.