

Legal Alert

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New detergent regulation published!

On 2 March 2026, the new Detergent Regulation¹ was published in the Official Journal of the European Union. The Regulation's primary objective is to limit the harmful impact of detergents and surfactants on health and ecosystems, and to provide consumers with clearer and more easily accessible information.

The new Detergent Regulation not only broadens the definition of a *detergent* to include microorganism-based substances, but also introduces:

- 1. UFI for all detergents**
an obligation is introduced to assign a Unique Formula Identifier (**UFI**) to all detergents.
- 2. Extended list of allergens**
the regulation extends the list of allergens subject to disclosure.
- 3. Ban on animal testing**
the new provisions introduce a ban on testing products on animals.
- 4. Digital product passport**
the regulation introduces an obligation to use a digital product passport.
- 5. Digital labelling**
the regulation allows certain mandatory information to be made available in a digital format. However, essential safety information must always remain on the physical label, while other data may be accessible via a data carrier.

Key dates:

Stage	Date / Period
Entry into force of the new Detergent Regulation	22 March 2026
Start of the Detergent Regulation, and the repeal of the Old Regulation ²	23 September 2029
Possibility to make available detergents and surfactants on the market that are compliant with the Old Regulation but that are placed on the market before 23 September 2029	Indefinitely (no time limit)
Possibility to make available detergents and surfactants on the market that are compliant with the Old Regulation but which are placed on the market after 22 September 2029 but before 23 September 2030	Until 23 September 2030

Contact us!



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¹ Regulation (EU) No 2026/405 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 February 2026 on detergents and surfactants, and repealing Regulation (EC) No 648/2004

² Regulation (EC) No 648/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 31 March 2004 on detergents.