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December, 1<sup>st</sup> 2010

**Subject: December the 1st 2010 and Regulatory changes for hazardous chemicals**

Dear Valued Customer,

From December 1<sup>st</sup> the European Union is implementing the new regulation **CLP - Classification, Labelling and Packaging** for substances according with the **Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labeling of Chemicals (GHS)**, Directive (EG) Nr. 1272/2008.

This requires all chemical manufacturers to only label substances they manufacture in accordance with these regulations. This will lead to the reclassification of many chemical substances and a new look to all labels of hazardous products.

However, VWR and many of our retail suppliers have in their supply chain, product labelled in conformity with the old classification system (Directive 67/548/EWG). They and we are allowed under the GHS regulations to continue to deliver this product to the market for up to 2 years. Nevertheless, VWR will endeavour to reduce this to a minimum but it is likely to continue for several months.

To address this situation VWR is working with all our suppliers to provide Safety Data Sheets (SDS) which describe the hazards in conformity to both sets of regulations and which are in accordance with the implementation of annex 2 of the **REACH** regulation (EC) No 1907/2006. For **BDH Prolabo**, **Merck** and **Alfa Aesar** products these are available from VWR on our website at: [vwr.com](http://vwr.com). For other suppliers please contact your local VWR customer services.

Enclosed with this letter is a Q&A explaining many of these changes in more detail and outlining how VWR can help you and your staff understand these changes. We hope this document is useful for you.

The **BDH Prolabo** catalogue will be published in 2011 and it will contain data outlining both the old and new regulations as we are aware many of you will still have on your shelf's product labelled in accordance with both sets of data.

VWR will continue to support you with additional information and the latest information can be found on our web site. However if you have specific questions then we recommend you e-mail us at [eurega\\_services@eu.vwr.com](mailto:eurega_services@eu.vwr.com)

Yours faithfully,

Dr. Olaf C. Fehr  
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