Chem-Scan: An Intelligence Report on UK Chemicals Regulations

RAMBØLL

Bright ideas.
Sustainable change.



Agenda

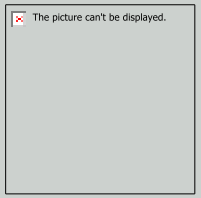
1. Aims and Objectives
2. Introduction to Ramboll
3. UK Chemical Sector Overview
4. Short Term Regulatory Challenges (2026 – 2028)
5. Crystal Ball: Medium Term Regulatory Risks (2028 – 2031)
6. Industry Mitigation – Strategic Planning
7. Conclusions



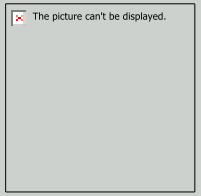
1.

Aims and Objectives

Aims and Objectives



Horizon scanning for the UK Chemicals Industry – highlight the short to medium regulatory challenges, risks, and opportunities within the UK chemicals sector.



Identify some of the key regulatory trends and potential business risks associated with the UK chemicals industry.



2.

Introduction to Ramboll

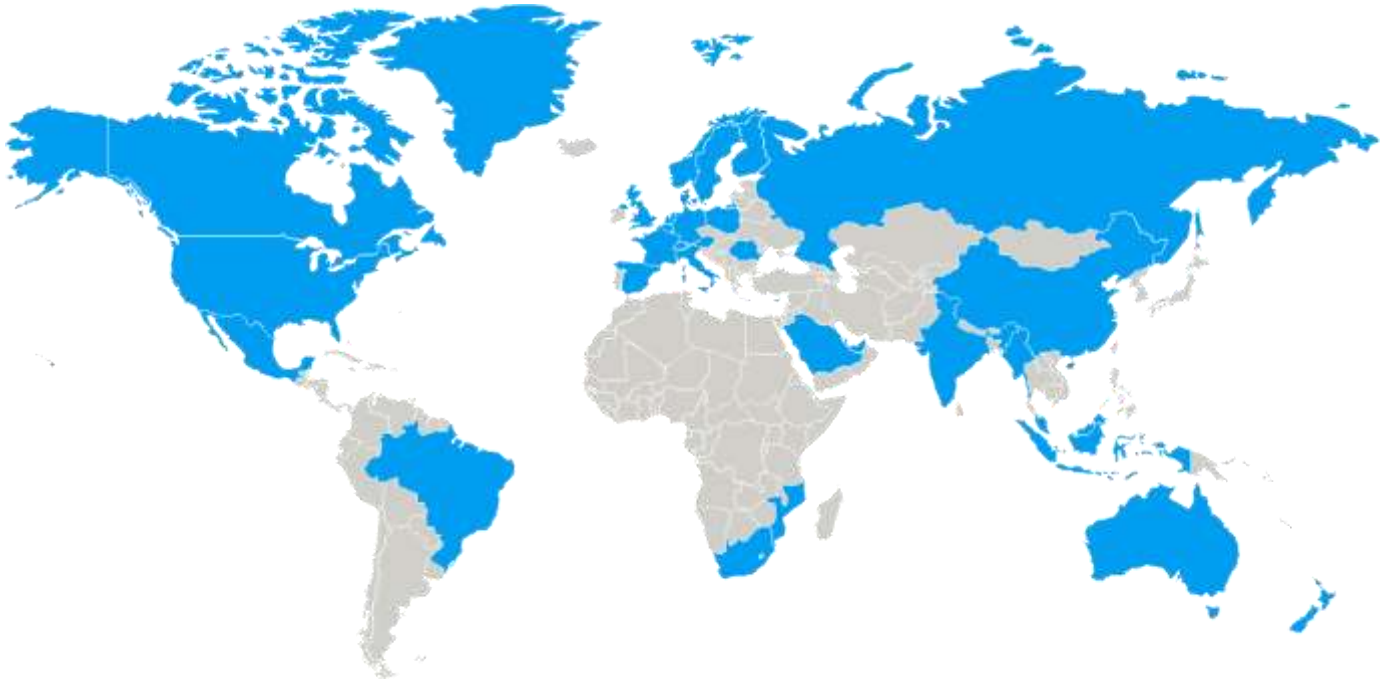
(Stand D142)

Ramboll combines deep scientific expertise and technical acumen with a broad global footprint to deliver sustainable solutions that are protective of human health and the environment.



Ramboll's Global REH Service Offering





Independent engineering , architecture and management consultancy

1945	17,500	35	€1.9bn	*Owned by The Ramboll Foundation*
	Experts	*Countries*	*Revenue*	



Health Sciences: Applying Science for a Healthy Society

In health sciences, over 160 Ramboll specialists work seamlessly as interdisciplinary global teams towards creating sustainable solutions for a healthy, flourishing society.

Our expertise ranges across disciplines including toxicology, chemistry, epidemiology, exposure, industrial hygiene, engineering and economics.

We provide unique holistic solutions such as climate change, air quality, circular economy, waste reduction and sustainability through close collaboration with fellow experts across the Ramboll group.



3.

UK Chemical Sector Overview

Sector Overview

Scale and Economic Contribution

- £30-£40bn Gross Value Added to UK economy (£63bn in revenue)
- 370K – 460K jobs across the chemicals value chain

Regulatory Context

- Highly regulated industrial sectors (chemicals safety, environmental, product standards)
- Heavy compliance burden across supply chains and product approvals

Uncertainty

- Post-Brexit regulatory divergence
  - Transition from EU REACH → UK REACH regime
- Ongoing uncertainty impacts investment decisions, market access, and competitiveness

Overall Positioning

- Strategically critical, high-productivity sector but policy and regulatory uncertainty remain key constraints





4.

Short Term Regulatory Challenges (2026 – 2028)

The Elephant in the room!

UK REACH

- Deadlines have moved
- Still no update on what requirements will be
  - An update was provided on ATRm
  - But still no legislation, path forward or timeline for delivery
- Uncertainty reigns



Divergence

REACH, CLP, BPR etc.

Microplastics

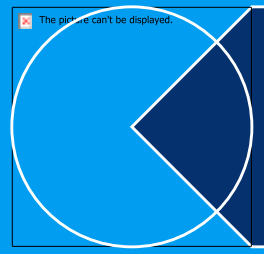
Deforestation

Packaging

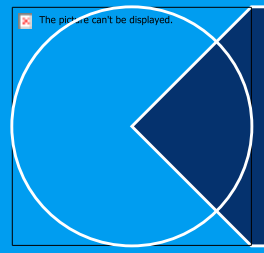
- EU: Packaging and Packing Waste Regulation (PPWR)
- UK: Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) + supporting measures



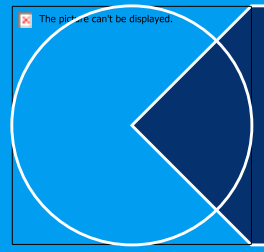
Divergence Microplastics



REACH Restriction on SPM
Annual Reporting requirement
Non-compliance = No market



No equivalent restriction
Targeted, sector specific measures
UK are assessing broader restriction and other RMOs



Now vs the future
Uncertainty





ISO 14001:2026 Update

What is new?

- Emphasizes organizational responsibilities, structured planning and emergency preparedness, and consistency in documentation and communication.
- New requirements address environmental performance, biodiversity and resilience, change management, and external processes, products and services.
- Organizations will need to review their internal processes and procedures and revise their documentation to conform with the new standards.

How to achieve compliance?

- Gap analysis of your existing EMS against ISO 14001:2026
- Review and update documentation
- Conduct environmental impact assessments, biodiversity measurement and goal setting, supply chain analysis
- Plan to implement the new requirements
- Potential need to conduct internal audits, including compliance audits of new system.



5.

Crystal Ball: Medium Term Regulatory Risks (2028 – 2031)



The Elephant Returns – UK REACH Implementation

- Will the deadlines remain as they currently are?
- What will the data requirements be?
- What will EU REACH look like?
- What will the costs be?
  - Actual vs. Unforeseen / Hidden
- What will the UK Government look like?
  - Closer ties to Europe or return to hard Brexit?

Medium Term Regulatory Risks



Market Access



Compliance Costs



Competition



Supply Chain Disruption



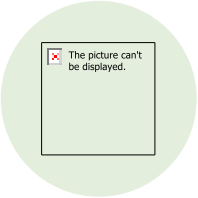
Uncertainty



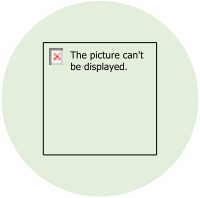
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Industry Mitigation and Potential Opportunities

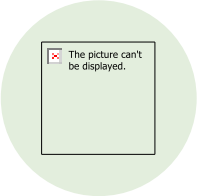
Mitigation – Strategic Planning



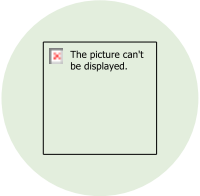
Early engagement



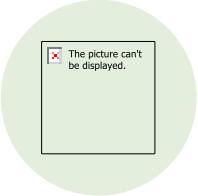
Regulatory alignment opportunities



Know you supply chain



Know your market



Innovation (e.g. Alternative Substances and Technologies)

Regulatory Wish List

- Long term regulatory certainty
- Regulatory Simplification and / or Cooperation
- Support
  - SME
  - Incentivise R&D



7.

Conclusions

Conclusions

- UK Chemical regulations is still at a crossroads
- Limiting uncertainty is a necessity
  - Decisions on timelines, alignment, data sharing, and innovation support are critical
- There are short to medium term challenges
- But… there are ways to mitigate and succeed



Any Questions?



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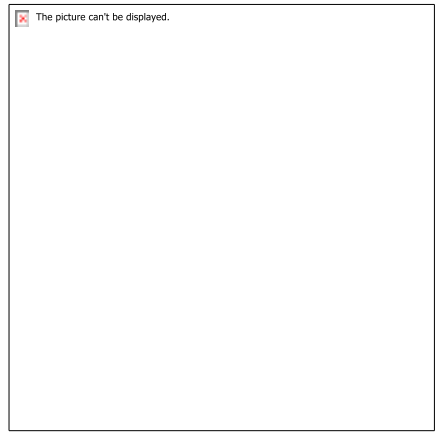
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Stand D142

https://www.ramboll.com/health-safety-and-risk/health-sciences



Product Sustainability

Talk to us about:

Making Green Claims

- Product Carbon Footprints
- LCA
- Third Party Verification
- Automating LCA

Customer procurement requirements

- TFS
- ISO 14044
- PEF + Batt Regs
- EPD
- Ecodesign

Product Strategy

- Portfolio Sustainability Assessments
- Supply chain optimisation
- What If analysis
- Bio-diversity
- Social impact

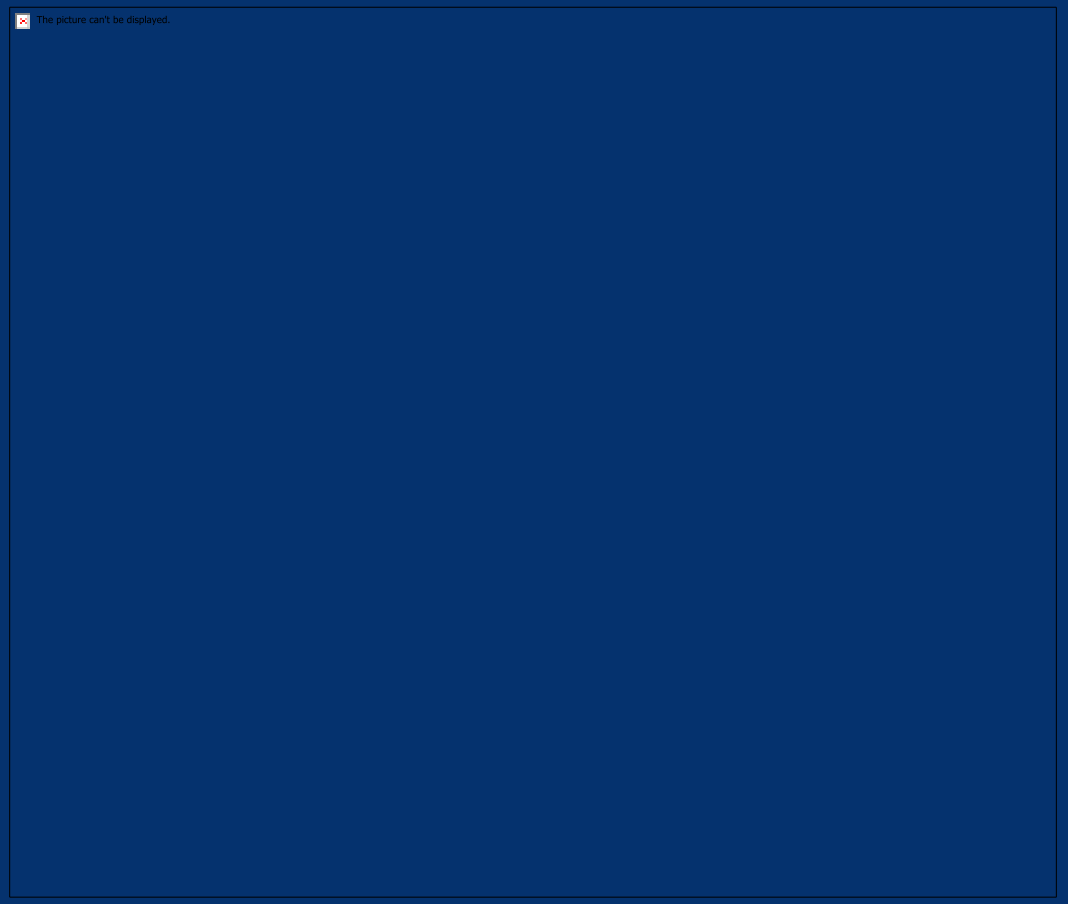
Sam Hinton
UK LCA Director
Stand D142



LCA for Chemicals - Preparing to comply: SRS, ESPR and more

Stage 2

Thursday, 13.00 – 13.30;


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