

# Requirements for SCIP notifications

October 2020

ABC

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## Information requirements for SCIP notifications

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## Table of Contents

<b>1. INTRODUCTION .....</b>	<b>5</b>
1.1 Background .....	5
1.2 Which suppliers of articles have to submit a SCIP notification to ECHA? .....	6
1.3 Which articles and substances are within the scope of the SCIP notification duty? .....	7
1.4 Timelines .....	8
1.5 REACH communication of information on substances in articles and the SCIP notification .....	8
<b>2. INFORMATION REQUIREMENTS .....</b>	<b>11</b>
2.1 Common requirements for both articles as such and complex objects .....	14
2.1.1 Identifiers and categorisation .....	14
2.1.1.1 Name of the article .....	16
2.1.1.2 Other name(s) .....	16
2.1.1.3 Primary article identifier .....	17
2.1.1.4 Other article identifier(s) .....	17
2.1.1.5 Article category .....	18
2.1.1.6 Production in European Union .....	19
2.1.2 Characteristics and picture(s) .....	19
2.1.3 Safe use instructions .....	20
2.2 Additional requirements for complex objects only .....	22
2.2.1 Complex object component(s) .....	23
2.3 Additional requirements for articles as such only .....	27
2.3.1 Concern elements .....	27
2.3.1.1 Candidate List Substance .....	29
2.3.1.2 Concentration range .....	30
2.3.1.3 Material or mixture categories .....	31
2.4 Keeping submitted information to the SCIP database up to date .....	32
2.4.1 Voluntary update when a Candidate List substance present in an article has been substituted by a safer alternative .....	33
<b>3. RECOMMENDED SOLUTIONS FOR THE LEVEL OF REPORTING IN THE SCIP NOTIFICATIONS: 'GROUPING' AND 'HIERARCHY' .....</b>	<b>34</b>
3.1 Criteria for 'grouping' identical or quasi-identical articles and complex objects in a SCIP notification .....	37
3.1.1 Criteria for 'grouping' <i>fully identical</i> articles .....	37
3.1.2 Criteria for 'grouping' <i>quasi-identical</i> articles .....	38
3.1.3 Criteria for 'grouping' <i>quasi-identical</i> complex objects .....	40
3.1.4 ECHA's recommended approaches: 'grouping' <i>fully identical</i> articles, <i>quasi-identical</i> articles and <i>quasi-identical</i> complex objects in a SCIP notification .....	44
3.1.5 Responsibilities of Member States: transposition of WFD Article 9(1)(i) and enforcement .....	45
3.2 How many layers of components and subcomponents in a complex object have to be reported in a SCIP notification (' <i>hierarchy</i> ')? .....	46
<b>APPENDIX 1. CATEGORIES OF MATERIALS IN SCIP .....</b>	<b>48</b>
A1-1. Introduction .....	48
A1-2. Overarching categories of materials and subcategories .....	49
A1-3. Additional material characteristics concerning the material an article is made of .....	50

A1-4. Lists of categories of materials and additional material characteristics included in the SCIP format.....	50
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## **APPENDIX 2. REPRESENTATIVE ARTICLE APPROACH FOR 'GROUPING' EXTREMELY COMPLEX OBJECTS ..... 51**

### **Table of Figures**

Figure 1: Bicycle as an example of a complex object made of many articles as such .....	12
Figure 2: Providing information when preparing a SCIP notification .....	14
Figure 3: Illustration on how the information requirements are organised and structured in a SCIP notification for a bicycle placed on the EU market by an assembler or an importer. ....	24
Figure 4: Illustration of how the information to be provided according to requirement in the first row of Table 5 is nested in the (hypothetical) bicycle SCIP notification. ....	26
Figure 5: Illustration of the potential very broad scope of the SCIP notification duty. ....	34
Figure 6: Illustration of the possible assembling layers need to identify an O-ring (article as such) containing a Candidate List substance (> 0.1% w/w) within a water pump incorporated in the engine of a passengers vehicle.....	36
Figure 7: Representation of complexity among different kinds of complex objects.....	36
Figure 8: <i>Fully identical</i> articles: screws with a defined radius under the head, nominal length, thread length, and head according to established standards.....	38
Figure 9: Representation of the recommended approach for setting the 'hierarchy' in a SCIP notification (example of the bicycle shown in Figure 3) .....	47

### **Table of Tables**

Table 1: Summary of the REACH communication of information on substances in articles and the SCIP notification obligations.....	9
Table 2: Identifiers and characterisation .....	15
Table 3: Characteristics and picture(s) .....	20
Table 4: Safe use instruction(s) and disassembling instruction(s) .....	21
Table 5: Complex object component(s) (only for complex objects).....	23
Table 6: Concern elements (only for articles containing a Candidate List substance in a concentration above 0.1% w/w) .....	27
Table 7: Candidate list substance no longer present.....	33

# 1. Introduction

## 1.1 Background

The SCIP database is the database for information on **S**ubstances of **C**oncern **I**n articles, as such or in complex objects (**P**roducts) established under the [Waste Framework Directive](#) (WFD).<sup>1</sup> Any supplier of an article containing a substance of very high concern (SVHC) on the [Candidate List for Authorisation](#)<sup>2</sup> in a concentration above 0.1% weight by weight (w/w) on the EU market is required to submit information on that article to ECHA, as from 5 January 2021.<sup>3</sup> The SCIP database ensures that the information on articles containing Candidate List substances<sup>4</sup> is available throughout the whole lifecycle of products and materials, including at the waste stage. The information in the database from the submitted SCIP notifications is then made available to waste operators and consumers.

The SCIP database has three main objectives:

1. Decrease the generation of waste containing hazardous substances by supporting the substitution of Candidate List substances in articles placed on the EU market.
2. Make information available to further improve waste treatment operations.
3. Allow authorities to monitor the use of substances of concern in articles and initiate appropriate actions over the whole lifecycle of articles, including at their waste stage.

REACH Regulation already requires suppliers of articles containing Candidate List substances in a concentration above 0.1% w/w to communicate down the supply chain and to consumers upon request sufficient information to allow the safe use of those articles.<sup>5</sup> However, this information does not reach waste operators at the waste stage once those articles become waste at the end of their service life. The SCIP database ensures that the same information available in supply chains is also available to waste operators to support the waste sector in improving current waste management practices and to foster the use of waste as a resource. Therefore, the SCIP notification duly complements the existing communication<sup>6</sup> and notification<sup>7</sup> requirements for Candidate List substances in articles under REACH, it does not replace them<sup>8</sup>. These REACH

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<sup>1</sup> Article 9(2) of the WFD sets out that the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA) shall establish a database for the data to be submitted to it pursuant to point (i) of paragraph 1 by 5 January 2020 and maintain it and shall provide access to that database to waste treatment operators and to consumers upon request.

<sup>2</sup> Published on ECHA website in accordance with Article 59(10) of the Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals ([REACH Regulation](#)).

<sup>3</sup> Article 9(1)(i) of the WFD requires any supplier of an article, as defined in Article 3(33) of the [REACH Regulation](#), to provide the information pursuant to Article 33(1) of that Regulation to the ECHA as from 5 January 2021.

<sup>4</sup> Candidate List substance means a substance of very high concern (SVHC) on the [Candidate List for Authorisation](#).

<sup>5</sup> REACH Article 33 sets out any supplier of an article containing a substance of very high concern on the [Candidate List](#) in a concentration above 0.1% weight by weight (w/w) shall provide the recipient of the article (paragraph 1) and to consumers upon request (paragraph 2) with sufficient information, available to the supplier, to allow safe use of the article including, as a minimum, the name of that substance.

<sup>6</sup> REACH Article 33.

<sup>7</sup> Also called Substance in Articles notification or SiA notification set out in REACH Article 7(2). The SiA notification obligation only applies to importers and producers of articles under certain conditions and aims at providing ECHA and the Member State competent authorities with information on the presence of Candidate List substances in articles. This information may be used to identify a need for initiating regulatory risk management procedures under REACH (authorisation and restriction) or under other EU legislation.

<sup>8</sup> EU importers, producers and other suppliers of articles need to comply with REACH Articles 7(2) and 33, when all conditions are met, as well as with the SCIP notification obligation under WFD Article 9(1)(i).

requirements are explained and illustrated in the [Guidance on requirements for substances in articles](#) (SiA Guidance). It also advises on deciding what is an article under REACH<sup>9</sup> and how the concentration of a Candidate List must be determined.

The SCIP database is designed with the dual aim to gather the required information and that this information will be structured and searchable, in order to enable optimised access and use primarily by waste operators and consumers, as well as by actors in the supply chain, NGOs and authorities.

Within the scope of the task given to ECHA by the WFD to develop and implement the SCIP database, ECHA specified the information requirements in more detail and the SCIP format for submission of SCIP notifications to ECHA by suppliers of articles. This document particularly assists companies in deciding if they have to fulfil the SCIP notification requirement related to articles containing Candidate List substances under the WFD and specifies in detail the information requirements for SCIP notifications to be submitted to ECHA under WFD Article 9(1)(i) pursuant to REACH Article 33(1).

## 1.2 Which suppliers of articles have to submit a SCIP notification to ECHA?

According to Article 3(33) of the REACH Regulation, the supplier of an article means *"any producer<sup>10</sup> or importer<sup>11</sup> of an article, any distributor<sup>12</sup> or other actor in the supply chain<sup>13</sup> who places an article on the market<sup>14</sup>".*

The following suppliers of articles need to submit a SCIP notification to ECHA:

- EU producers and assemblers,
- EU importers,
- EU distributors of articles and other actors who place articles on the market.

Retailers, excluding those who are importers and/or producers, and other supply chain actors supplying articles directly and exclusively to consumers are not covered by the duty to provide information to ECHA.<sup>15</sup>

The duty to provide information to ECHA starts with the first supplier (producer/importer<sup>16</sup>) within a supply chain, because they have or should have the best knowledge of the article.<sup>15</sup> Concerning other suppliers of articles further down in the supply chain (such as distributors who are not importers), a pragmatic approach may be sought as regards to the way they fulfil their duty, such as making reference to information already submitted by the upstream supplier.<sup>15</sup> In this context, the two tools developed by ECHA to allow referring to information already successfully submitted to the SCIP database are Simplified SCIP Notification (SSN) to be

<sup>9</sup> REACH Article 3(3).

<sup>10</sup> REACH Article 3(4) defines producer of an article as *"any natural or legal person who makes or assembles an article within the Community"*.

<sup>11</sup> REACH Article 3(11) defines importer as *"any natural or legal person established within the Community who is responsible for import"* and import is defined as *"the physical introduction into the customs territory of the Community"* (REACH Article 3(10)).

<sup>12</sup> REACH Article 3(14) defines distributor as *"any natural or legal person established within the Community, including a retailer, who only stores and places on the market a substance, on its own or in a mixture, for third parties"*.

<sup>13</sup> REACH Article 3(17) defines actors in the supply chain as *"all manufacturers and/or importers and/or downstream users in a supply chain"*.

<sup>14</sup> REACH Article 3(12) defines placing on the market as *"supplying or making available, whether in return for payment or free of charge, to a third party. Import shall be deemed to be placing on the market."*

<sup>15</sup> From the Commission's *"Non-paper on the implementation of articles 9(1)(i) and 9(2) of the revised Waste Framework Directive 2008/98/EC"*, 2019, ref. Ares(2019)3936110.

<sup>16</sup> Including distributors who are also importers.

primarily used by distributors, and 'Referencing' in a SCIP notification dossier to be primarily used by 'assemblers'.

### 1.3 Which articles and substances are within the scope of the SCIP notification duty?

The SCIP notification duty covers all articles, without exceptions, as defined under REACH, placed on the EU market containing a Candidate List substance in a concentration above 0.1% w/w.

Substances fulfilling one or more of the criteria defined in REACH Article 57 can be identified as Substances of Very High Concern (SVHCs) and put on the Candidate List for Authorisation. New substances are regularly added to the Candidate List, usually twice a year.

REACH Article 3(3) defines an article as "*an object which during production is given a special shape, surface or design which determines its function to a greater degree than its chemical composition*".

It follows from this definition that an article is an object made from one or more substances or mixtures which were given a specific shape, surface or design during the production process. Most of the commonly used objects in private households and industries are themselves articles (e.g. one-piece plastic spoon, injection-moulded garden chair, postcard, bolt), or complex objects (e.g. sofa, vehicle, clock, electronic equipment), which incorporate two or more articles.<sup>17</sup> Articles that are assembled or joined together remain articles, as long as they keep a special shape, surface or design, which is more decisive for their function than their chemical composition, or as long as they do not become waste<sup>18, 19</sup>

The duty applies to any article as such or in a complex object, i.e. an object made up of more than one article, because articles that are assembled or joined together usually remain articles. An importer or any other supplier of a complex object (e.g. foldback clip) is an importer or supplier of the various articles as such the complex object is made up (e.g. the bent strip of steel and the two metallic wire handles of the foldback clip).<sup>19</sup> Each supplier of an article needs to assess if an object fulfils the definition of an article under REACH, as explained in chapter 2 of the SiA Guidance, in order to determine if it is covered by the communication obligations under REACH, and by the SCIP notification obligation under the WFD. To make such an assessment, the supplier needs to identify the function of the object, and have information that allows a comparison between the physical form (shape, surface and design) and the chemical composition to determine whether the former is more important for the function.

A SCIP notification must be submitted to ECHA for articles as such containing a Candidate List substance in a concentration above 0.1% w/w<sup>20</sup> and complex objects incorporating such articles, as they are supplied, including "spare parts" supplied for replacement. Articles or complex objects that are repaired, provided that they are not supplied, are not covered by the legal duty.

Information on articles supplied directly and exclusively to consumers by an EU actor in the supply chain who is not an importer, without the participation of a distributor or other actor in the supply chain, is not included in the SCIP database, because any direct supply to consumers by EU actors in the supply chain who are not importers or producers is not covered by the legal

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<sup>17</sup> See subchapter 2.4 of the [SiA Guidance](#).

<sup>18</sup> "Waste" as defined in the WFD Article 3(1).

<sup>19</sup> Judgement of the European Court of Justice of 10 September 2015 in [case C-106/14](#).

<sup>20</sup> Subchapter 3.2.3.1 of the [SiA Guidance](#) explains how the concentration of a Candidate List must be determined.

obligation.

Where necessary, in the interests of defence, Member States may allow for exemptions from the REACH Regulation in specific cases for certain substances on their own, in a mixture or in an article (Article 2(3) of the REACH Regulation). Therefore, in case a Member State considers that the reporting obligations are detrimental to its national interests in the area of defence, then a Member State may choose to invoke this article to provide a specific exemption from the obligation of Article 33(1) of REACH, and to Article 9(1)(i) of the WFD respectively. Furthermore, Member States are not obliged to supply information the disclosure of which they consider to be contrary to the essential interests of its security (Article 346 TFEU<sup>21</sup>).<sup>15</sup>

## 1.4 Timelines

As from 5 January 2021, information on articles containing an SVHC on the Candidate List in a concentration above 0.1 % w/w placed on the EU market needs to be notified to ECHA. The SCIP notification duty applies from that date onwards.

The SiA Guidance, in its subchapter 3.2.1 concerning the REACH communication obligation down the supply chain mentions that the *"information is to be provided to the recipient of the article when the article is supplied for the first time after the inclusion of the substance into the Candidate List"*. Therefore, after 5 January 2021, if substances present in an article placed on the EU market in a concentration above 0.1% w/w are added to the Candidate List, the supplier of that article needs to submit a SCIP notification or update a previous submitted SCIP notification for that article at the time of the next supply or placement on the market to any customer or as a result of an import, after the substance has been included in the Candidate List.

Articles as such or in complex objects containing a Candidate List substance (> 0.1% w/w) previously placed on the market, but not placed on the market from 5 January 2021 onwards, do not need to be notified to ECHA.

The revised WFD entered into force on 4 July 2018 and had to be transposed into national law by Member States by 5 July 2020. Member States should ensure national rules are in place to oblige all suppliers to provide information to ECHA, i.e. to submit a SCIP notification, as from 5 January 2021.

## 1.5 REACH communication of information on substances in articles and the SCIP notification

Under REACH, any supplier of an article containing a substance has to provide to the recipient of the article (Article 33(1)) sufficient information, available to the supplier, to allow safe use of the article (safety information), when both the following conditions are met:

- The substance is included in the Candidate List for Authorisation, and
- The substance is present in the articles placed on the market in a concentration above 0.1% (w/w).

The information is to be provided to the recipient<sup>22</sup> of the article when the article is supplied for the first time after the inclusion of the substance into the Candidate List.

The information communicated down the supply chain under REACH by a supplier of an article,

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<sup>21</sup> Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union.

<sup>22</sup> REACH Article 3(35) defines recipient of an article as *"an industrial or professional user, or a distributor, being supplied with an article but does not include consumers"*.



fulfilling those conditions, has to be provided to ECHA by submitting a SCIP notification.

REACH does not specify a format for providing safe use information down the supply chain. Concerning SCIP notifications, ECHA established a SCIP format for companies to submit information to the SCIP database.

The REACH communication of information on substances in articles (SiA) and the SCIP notification duties are summarised in Table 1.

**Table 1: Summary of the REACH communication of information on substances in articles and the SCIP notification obligations**

Obligation:	Communication of information on SiA	SCIP notification
Legal basis	REACH Article 33	WFD Article 9(1)(i)
Actors concerned	Article suppliers*	
Articles concerned	All articles as such or in complex objects placed on the EU market (all objects fulfilling the definition of article under REACH)	
Substances concerned	Substances included in Candidate List of Substances of Very High Concern for Authorisation	
Concentration of the substance in article threshold	Above 0.1% w/w	
Tonnage threshold	No	
Exemptions	No, except specific exemptions allowed by Member States in the interests of defence. <sup>23</sup>	
Information to be communicated/provided	Sufficient information, available to the supplier <sup>24</sup> , to allow safe use of the article, considering all life-cycle stages, as well as foreseeable misuse, disposal and recycling <sup>25</sup>	
Identification of articles or complex objects	Available in labels on the articles or complex objects, catalogues or other means	It needs to be provided in the SCIP notification to determine the scope of the notification and to allow the users of the database to identify them
Format to communicate/provide the information	Not specified in the legal text	Established by ECHA to submit the information to the SCIP database

\* For the SCIP notification duty, EU retailers and other EU supply chain actors, who are not importers,

<sup>23</sup> REACH Article 2(3)

<sup>24</sup> Chapter 3.2.1 of the SiA Guidance states that “The communication obligations arise from the presence of the Candidate List substance in the article. These obligations apply regardless of whether or not the supplier is aware of the presence of the substances. Therefore, it is in the interests of the supplier to seek information on the presence of Candidate List substances”; Chapter 5 of the SiA Guidance refers to many sources of information available to suppliers of articles or advice on approaches to obtain and evaluate information on substances in articles; Subchapter 3.3 of the same Guidance also refers to information that is or may be available to EU importers and producers of articles.

<sup>25</sup> Chapters 3.2.1 and 3.4.1 of the SiA Guidance

supplying articles directly and exclusively to consumers are excluded.

## 2. Information requirements

Any supplier of an article containing a Candidate List substance in a concentration above 0.1% w/w needs to submit to ECHA in a SCIP notification sufficient information to allow safe use of the article placed on the EU market. In the absence of further details, it was necessary to define in more detail what requirements are set out by the legal provisions.

The necessary information requirements for SCIP notifications are specified below by taking into account the legal text of the Directive 2018/851 amending the WFD and the REACH Regulation, including the relevant recitals, in particular WFD Article 9(1)(i) and REACH Article 33(1), the case law of the European Court of Justice<sup>19</sup>, the Commission's "Non-paper on the implementation of articles 9(1)(i) and 9(2) of the revised Waste Framework Directive 2008/98/EC"<sup>26</sup>, and the SiA Guidance<sup>27</sup>. ECHA also took into account in their development the contributions received from the European Commission, Member States and stakeholders (trade and industry associations, waste operators and interested NGOs).

The commercial identification of an article or complex object placed on the EU market is usually made available on the products, on labels, in catalogues or by other means and comprises for example of the trade name, the brand, the model and the bar code number. Without such identification, actors in the supply chain and consumers cannot reconnect an article to the relevant safe use information in the SCIP database. The information communicated to the SCIP database must permit the identification of the article containing the Candidate List substance to which the safe use information is linked, even when this article is itself incorporated in a complex object. That safe use information aims at enabling all actors in the supply chain to take, at their stage, those risk management measures which follow from the presence of Candidate List substances in articles in order to guarantee their completely safe use and indirectly at allowing those operators and consumers to make a supply choice in full knowledge of the properties of the products, including those of articles forming part of their composition.<sup>19</sup> The information to be submitted to the SCIP database is primarily intended to be available and used by waste (treatment) operators, therefore it has to be useful for the waste treatment phase of the article's lifecycle, and enable the identification and effective treatment of waste containing Candidate List substances.<sup>26</sup>

In view of these elements, the information to be provided to ECHA in a SCIP notification has to include the following information:

- information that allows the identification of the article;
- the identification of the Candidate List substance in the article, its concentration range and its location, as appropriate; and
- possibly any other information on the safe use of the article, available to the supplier<sup>24</sup>, notably information which is necessary to ensure proper management of the article once it becomes waste.

Therefore, in addition to the identification of the duty holder and its contact details,<sup>28</sup> the minimum available information which the supplier has to communicate to ECHA consists of<sup>26</sup>:

- i) information relevant to the identification of the article;
- ii) name, concentration range and location of the SVHC (in the Candidate List);
- iii) where information in point ii) is not sufficient, other available information on the safe use of the article, in particular, information that is relevant to ensure proper management of the article once it becomes waste.

There are many articles and complex objects (i.e. objects made up of more than one article)

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<sup>26</sup> Commission's "Non-paper on the implementation of articles 9(1)(i) and 9(2) of the revised Waste Framework Directive 2008/98/EC", distributed to the CARACAL and Waste Expert Group in June 2019, ref. Ares(2019)3936110.

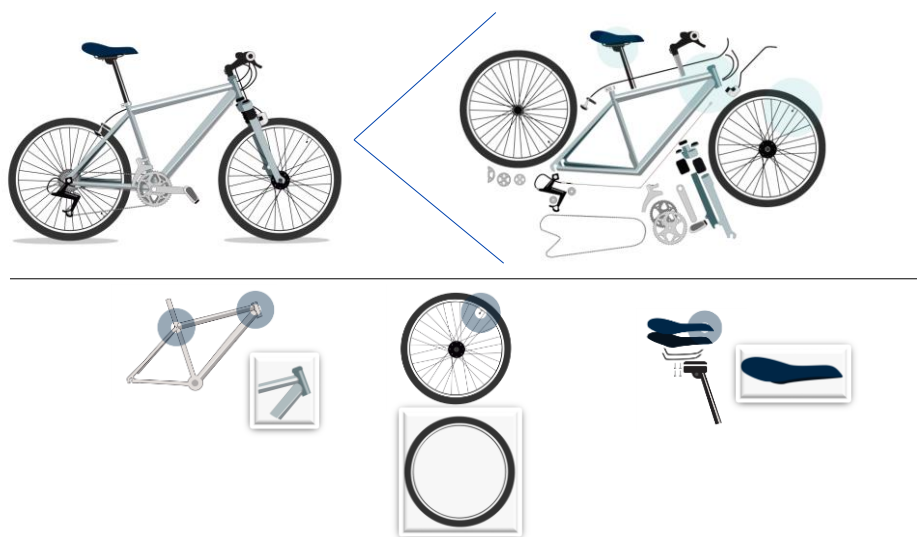
<sup>27</sup> Namely subchapters 3.2.1, 3.2.3.1 and 3.4.1, Appendix 5 and Example 23 in Appendix 6.

<sup>28</sup> Not covered in this document. Further details are provided in the [ECHA Accounts Manual](#).

placed on the market which could be covered by the SCIP notification duty, from simple articles such as an O-ring or a packaging bag, to more complex objects such as a pencil sharpener, an outdoor jacket, a household appliance, a bicycle or a vehicle. Due to that diversity, the requirements need to be suitable to allow the submission of information for all possible articles and complex objects to the SCIP database. The submission SCIP format was developed as a solution capable of applying to all possible situations; It also addresses the elements listed above.

For example, a bicycle as shown in Figure 1 is a complex object made of many articles as such. Some of these articles as such in the bicycle may contain Candidate List substances. The bicycle is assembled from several components, many of them are complex objects such as the frame, the wheels, and the saddle. The frame is made for instance of several tubes and stays (articles as such), usually joined by a solder; each wheel incorporates several components such as spokes, rim, inner tube with valve stem, and tyre (article as such); the saddle is also made of several components including among others the hard shell, the outer cover and the rails. These components of the frame, the wheels, and the saddle are therefore subcomponents of the bicycle.

**Figure 1: Bicycle as an example of a complex object made of many articles as such**



The information to be submitted in a SCIP notification to ECHA must be provided at the article level and depends on whether it concerns:

- an article as such containing one or more Candidate List substance(s) (> 0.1% w/w) (an article as such means the most granular or basic unit, in which an article can exist after being produced; it can be placed on the market on its own or in a complex object);
- a complex object incorporating such articles. (a complex object incorporates components, which can either be other complex objects or articles as such).

Therefore, there are information requirements applicable to:

- both articles as such and complex objects, termed hereafter as common requirements (section 2.1), grouped as
  - identifiers and categorisation,
  - characteristics,
  - safe use instruction(s);
- only to complex objects (section 2.2), grouped as
  - complex object component(s);
- only to articles as such (section 2.3), grouped as

- concern elements

Taking the bicycle as shown in Figure 1 again, if the tyre is an article as such containing a Candidate List substance 1 (> 0.1% w/w), the supplier of the bicycle needs to submit a SCIP notification for the bicycle, the complex object placed on the market. Therefore, the bicycle is the top level entity in the SCIP notification of this supplier, who needs to provide information for the bicycle according to the requirements set out for identifiers and categorisation, characteristics, and safe use instruction(s) in section 2.1 of this document. The SCIP notification for the bicycle must also identify the tyre, regarded in this example as an article as such, as containing the Candidate List substance 1, by fulfilling the information requirements for the concern elements defined in section 2.3 below, as well as the requirements under section 2.1 below, for the tyre. The information for other relevant components and subcomponents of the bicycle incorporating the tyre should be provided according to the requirements under section 2.2 below on complex object component(s).

The flowchart in Figure 2 shows how the information should be provided according to the information requirements set forth in this section when preparing a SCIP notification for an article as such or a complex object, starting from the article or complex object placed on the market (top level entity) by the submitter. It does not necessarily mean how the information should be generated and/or collected by the submitter.

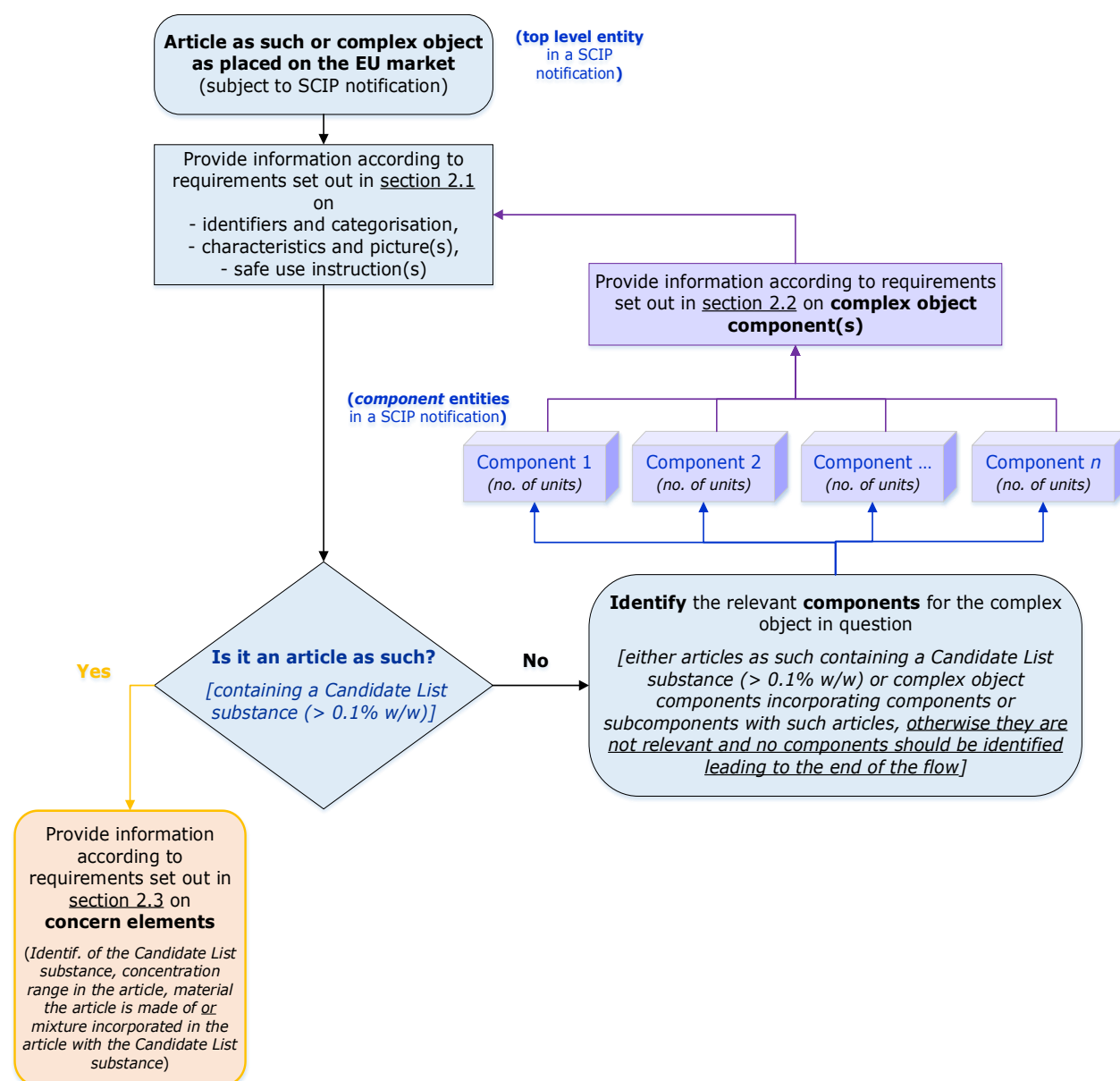
Each information requirement (in Tables 2 to 7 below) is also classified as

- Mandatory (M): data must be provided, because it is legally and/or technically necessary; if data is not provided for the requirement, the submission of the notification fails and the obligation is not fulfilled;
- Required (R): it requires an input to be provided, for example by selecting among options in a drop-down list or by checking a box; However, it can be fulfilled without providing data, for example when no information is available or no additional information needs to be provided; In these cases, the notifier can select the relevant option among the available ones (e.g. "No data"), or declare that no data is needed to be provided by checking a box; not providing the above mentioned input by making that selection or checking fails the submission of the notification for technical reasons;
- Optional (O): the data may only be provided optionally but its submission is encouraged; the submission of the notification is successful even if data is not provided.

This classification of the requirements (see Tables 1 to 6 below) is relevant for submitting a successful SCIP notification. However, it does not necessarily mean that additional relevant and available information does not need to be provided for certain requirements classified as optional (O) or required (R) for complying with the SCIP notification duty. In particular, if that information in a concrete case is available<sup>24</sup> and needed to ensure the safe use of the article or complex object throughout the whole life cycle including service life, disassembly and waste/recycling stage<sup>25</sup>. For example, for articles as such or complex objects placed on the EU market for consumers sufficient commercial identifiers may need to be additionally provided to allow them to link the submitted safe use information to those articles and complex objects in the SCIP database, in particular if they are made available to consumers on the product, on labels, in catalogues or by other means.<sup>29</sup>

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<sup>29</sup> By analogy, this is also the case in the context of REACH Article 33(2) for consumers to be able to submit a meaningful request under that provision.

**Figure 2: Providing information when preparing a SCIP notification**

## 2.1 Common requirements for both articles as such and complex objects

This section specifies how an article as such or a complex object should be identified and described, which safe use instructions are to be recommended, if needed to ensure the safe use of the article containing a Candidate List substance or the complex object incorporating such articles taking into account all life-cycle stages, including the waste stage, in a SCIP notification. These requirements apply to both articles as such and complex objects, including those inserted as a complex object component (see section 2.2).

### 2.1.1 Identifiers and categorisation

The identifiers, including names, and the article category requirement should allow an unequivocal identification of the article as such or the complex object placed on the market for

which the SCIP notification is being submitted (top level entity<sup>30</sup>) by the duty holder. They should also allow to identify or recognise the components of a complex object, namely the articles as such containing the Candidate List substance.

The identifiers, when relevant, should be consistent with those commercial identifiers made available on the product, on labels, in catalogues or by other means when articles or complex objects are made available on the EU market.

The material category and/or the mixture category for articles as such, as explained in section 2.3.1, are also elements that are important to characterise the article and to support its identification in the SCIP database.

Table 2 lists and shortly describes the requirements concerning the identification of articles as such and complex objects in a SCIP notification.

**Table 2: Identifiers and characterisation**

Requirement	Description	M/R/O**
<b>Name of the article</b>	Provide the name of the article or complex object as assigned by the submitter.	M
<b>Other name(s)* [type and value]</b>	Provide any additional name used to specifically identify the article or complex object, such as brand name, model or other. For example, a name appearing on the article or complex object, labels, catalogues or other means.	O
<b>Primary article identifier [type and value]</b>	Provide a numerical or alphanumerical identifier assigned to the article as such or the complex object by the submitter, being an essential technical requisite to identify the SCIP notification submitted for that article or complex object in the ECHA Submission Portal <sup>31</sup> .	M
<b>Other article identifier(s)* [type and value]</b>	Provide other numerical or alphanumerical identifier assigned to the article as such or the complex object to enable its specific identification such as product code or other identifier already used for instance for its commercial and trade practices. For example, an identifier appearing on the article or complex object, labels, catalogues or other means.	O

<sup>30</sup> The term 'top level entity' is used to refer to articles as such or complex objects available to be placed on the market for which a SCIP notification is being submitted to distinguish from articles as such and complex objects inserted in a notification for a complex object as components of that object (see section 2.2).

<sup>31</sup> 'ECHA Submission Portal': online portal to submit a SCIP notification to ECHA.

Requirement	Description	M/R/O**
<b>Article category*</b>	Provide summarised information on function or use of the article containing Candidate List substances or of the complex object incorporating such articles. The summarised information on function or use of the article or complex object aims at providing a common understandable name or description (from a harmonised list). It is provided from selectable pre-defined values (article categories or CN/TARIC codes and descriptions <sup>32</sup> ) in a harmonised list in the SCIP notification. Those pre-defined values with codes and descriptions <u>are based</u> on an existing harmonised list – the integrated Tariff of the European Union – TARIC – list. The identification of the article or complex object based on its function or use cannot be ensured by the 'article name' on its own as assigned by the submitter.	M
<b>Production in European Union</b>	Indicate whether or not the article or complex object has been produced or assembled in the European Union.	R

\*Repeatable. The submitter can provide information in this requirement as many times as needed to provide the necessary information related with the article as such or the complex object. E.g Under "Other names", the brand and the model can be provided by adding additional fields for this requirement.

\*\* M = Mandatory; R = Required (but with an option "no data" available); O = Optional.

#### 2.1.1.1 Name of the article

The name of the article or complex object, as described in Table 2, provided should be simple, clear and concise but descriptive, i.e. it should reflect how the article and complex object is commonly known (e.g. screw, blade, pencil sharpener, digital watch, engine, motorcycle) to be easily identified and understood in the SCIP database. This is particularly relevant for articles and complex objects inserted in a SCIP notification as a complex object component (see section 2.2).

The name of the article or the complex object aims at:

- enabling the identification of the article or complex object in the SCIP database, either as a top level entity or as a complex object component;
- facilitating the preparation, creation and submission of the SCIP notification dossier(s) (in IUCLID<sup>33</sup> format), as well as the submissions (in the ECHA Submission Portal<sup>31</sup>).

#### 2.1.1.2 Other name(s)

The submitter may provide any additional name as described in Table 2. When providing other names, the submitter must select a pre-defined type (e.g. brand, model, type) or define it as suitable according to its practices for example in the sector or supply chain, and insert the

<sup>32</sup> CN/TARIC codes and descriptions, as termed in this document, refer to codes and descriptions taken from the integrated Tariff of the European Union – TARIC – list which incorporates the Combined Nomenclature (CN) codes and descriptions as set out in Annex I to Council Regulation (EEC) No 2658/87 and the specific TARIC subheadings. The TARIC list is also known as the [EU product classification system](#).

<sup>33</sup> International Uniform Chemical Information Database (IUCLID) is a software application system for managing data on intrinsic and hazard properties of chemical substances and mixtures for accurate reporting to the regulatory authorities, which is developed by ECHA in collaboration with the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). The SCIP format is part of the IUCLID since October 2019. Further information is available at <https://iuclid6.echa.europa.eu/project-iuclid-6>.



respective name (value).

Several other names may be provided by the submitter as other means for the specific identification of the article or complex object, when relevant or considered necessary by the submitter to comply with the SCIP notification duty.

Other names rather refer to other names used to identify commercially the article or complex object, as they appear on the labels, catalogues or other means when making them available on the market (e.g. brand, model) than to synonyms of the name provided under the name of the article requirement (section 2.1.1.1).

These additional names should whenever needed be provided to enable an unequivocal identification in the SCIP database of the article as such or the complex object as placed on the market (top level entity) by any user of the database. For example, for articles as such or complex objects placed on the market for consumers, other names such as the brand, model and type should be provided, when relevant or available, to allow consumers to identify unequivocally the article as such or the complex object linked to the information submitted to the SCIP database.

#### 2.1.1.3 Primary article identifier

The primary article identifier, as described in Table 2, to be provided in the SCIP notification is a numerical or alphanumerical identifier assigned at the submitter's own discretion. It can be company's own product code or identifier already used for instance for its commercial and trade practices.

When providing the primary article identifier, the submitter may select a pre-defined type or define it as suitable according to its practices and insert the respective name (value). The pre-defined types are among others for example the European Article Number-EAN, the Universal Product Code-GPC, the Global Trade Item Number-GTIN, a catalogue number and a part number.

The primary article identifier (type and value) is mandatory for technical reasons. It is essential to manage the SCIP notifications and submissions for the articles as such and the complex objects (top level entity) for which the information is being submitted. It also supports the preparation of SCIP notifications.

For articles or complex objects (top level entity) which are made available or placed on the market for consumers, if suitable, a numerical or alphanumerical identifier made available to them, e.g. European Article Number (EAN) on the labels or catalogues, may be provided under this requirement by setting it as primary article identifier.

#### 2.1.1.4 Other article identifier(s)

The submitter may provide any additional numerical or alphanumerical identifier, as described in Table 2, to the primary article identifier of the article as such or complex object to enable its specific identification in the SCIP database.

Several other numerical or alphanumerical identifiers may be provided by the submitter as other means for the specific identification of the article or complex object, when relevant or considered necessary to comply with the SCIP notification duty.

When providing an additional numerical or alphanumerical identifier for the article as such or complex object being notified, the submitter may select a pre-defined type or define it as suitable according to its practices and insert the respective name (value). The pre-defined types are among others for example the European Article Number-EAN, the Universal Product Code-GPC, the Global Trade Item Number-GTIN, a catalogue number and a part number.

Other numerical or alphanumerical identifier must whenever needed be provided to enable an unequivocal identification in the SCIP database of the article as such or the complex object as

made available or placed on the market (top level entity) linked to the information submitted by any user of the database. For example, for articles as such or complex objects which are made available or placed on the market for consumers, identifiers made available to them such as the EAN barcode number, e.g. on the product, on labels, in catalogues or by other means, must be included in the notification whenever needed to support consumers in identifying unequivocally the article as such or the complex object linked to the information submitted to the SCIP database.

#### 2.1.1.5 Article category

The "Article category" in the SCIP database, as described in Table 2, is the way for duty holders to provide the function or use of the article as such (with Candidate List substances) or complex object (incorporating such articles) in the SCIP notification from a pre-defined harmonised list based on the integrated Tariff of the European Union – [TARIC](#) – list, therein named CN/TARIC codes and descriptions<sup>34</sup>. The TARIC list incorporates the Combined Nomenclature (CN)<sup>35</sup> codes and descriptions as set out in Annex I to Council Regulation (EEC) No 2658/87 and the specific TARIC<sup>36</sup> subheadings.<sup>37</sup>

The summarised information on function or use of the article or complex object aims at providing a common understandable name or description from a harmonised list. The identification of the article or complex object cannot be ensured by the 'article name' on its own (section 2.1.1.1), because it is attributed at the submitter's own discretion and is not pre-defined. Furthermore, the 'article name' can be provided in other language rather than in English and can be meaningless for users of the SCIP database, in particular for consumers and waste operators. Furthermore, the 'article name' may be meaningless for the users of the SCIP database, because it is a key element to manage the data in the preparation and submission of SCIP notifications and in the ECHA Submission Portal<sup>31</sup>, and within the submitter's own discretion the name attributed for this purpose may not be clear or easily understood by those users.

The 'Article Category' (CN/TARIC codes and descriptions) is also a key element to support the identification of impacted waste streams based on function/use of the article or complex object (e.g. textiles, batteries, construction and demolition, electrical and electronic equipment, end of life vehicles, packaging), once it becomes waste.

Furthermore, due to reasons to protect commercial interests based on the information submitted to the SCIP database concerning complex objects as placed on the market, the names and identifiers submitted in a SCIP notification are disclosed only for the top level complex object (top level entity); however, regarding the components and subcomponents (see section 2 above) only the name and the article category – CN/TARIC codes and descriptions – will be publicly available in the SCIP database concerning their identification. This means, for example, that if there is a notification for a bicycle, the information about the bicycle, such as the brand and model, will be published; However, if the bicycle includes two wheels and inner tubes of certain brands and models, this specific information is not made available, but the SCIP database shows

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<sup>34</sup> The CN/TARIC codes and descriptions is another name given to the pre-defined harmonised list of article categories included in the SCIP format. This list contains codes and descriptions taken from the TARIC list. The TARIC list is also known as the EU product classification system. For further information see footnote 32 and the EU product classification system webpage:

<https://trade.ec.europa.eu/tradehelp/eu-product-classification-system>

<sup>35</sup> Further information on the Combined Nomenclature (CN) is available at

[https://ec.europa.eu/taxation\\_customs/business/calculation-customs-duties/what-is-common-customs-tariff/combined-nomenclature\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/taxation_customs/business/calculation-customs-duties/what-is-common-customs-tariff/combined-nomenclature_en)

<sup>36</sup> Further information on TARIC is available at

[https://ec.europa.eu/taxation\\_customs/business/calculation-customs-duties/what-is-common-customs-tariff/taric\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/taxation_customs/business/calculation-customs-duties/what-is-common-customs-tariff/taric_en)

<sup>37</sup> Both TARIC and the Combined Nomenclature are managed by the European Commission.

that the inner tubes (identified by the attributed 'article name' and 'article category') as a component of the wheels and a subcomponent of that bicycle contains a Candidate List substance. It is of the highest importance to submit the appropriate CN/TARIC code and description under the 'article category' for the components and subcomponents of complex objects to allow the identification of the articles containing the Candidate List substances.

For all the reasons explained above and taking into account the objectives and the workability of the SCIP database, this requirement is mandatory. The pre-defined list allows, when justified, to report an article category without being too detailed, provided that it allows to identify the article or complex object together with the name(s) provided under the requirements 'name of the article' and 'other name(s)'.

#### 2.1.1.6 Production in European Union

The production in the European Union requirement aims at indicating, if the information is available, whether the article or complex object is produced or assembled in the EU. The submitter needs to provide one of the following pre-defined values:

- 'EU produced', if the article or complex object is produced or assembled in the EU;
- 'EU imported', if the article or complex object is imported into the EU;
- 'Both EU produced and imported', if the article or complex object is both produced or assembled in the EU and imported into the EU;
- 'No data', if the data is not available to the submitter or if it is decided not to submit such data.

This is a "required" information requirement, because an option exists to indicate 'No data'.

#### 2.1.2 Characteristics and picture(s)

The inclusion in the SCIP notification of additional relevant and available information concerning relevant characteristics of the article or complex object may be done by the submitter. Those characteristics may help to enable the specific identification of the article or complex object in the SCIP database. It may also help to distinguish the article or complex object being notified from similar articles or complex objects made available or placed on the EU market by the submitter or other market actors. A characteristic means in this context a feature, quality or property of the article as such or complex object, such as those listed in Table 3. When providing the value for a characteristic to which a unit of measure is associated, that unit should also be provided.

It is also possible to include a picture or other visual identification of the article as such or the complex object being notified in the SCIP notification, if it helps to better identify or recognise it.



It is recommended that the picture submitted should not include any elements that lead to the identification of any supplier of the article or complex object. It is also recommended that the picture does not include any of the identifiers listed in Table 2, except the article name and the article category, when inserted in a SCIP notification as a complex object component.

Table 3 lists and shortly describes optional requirements concerning the visual identification and the characteristics of articles as such and complex objects in a SCIP notification.

**Table 3: Characteristics and picture(s)**

Requirement	Description	M/R/O**
<b>Picture(s)*</b>	Provide a visual identification of the article as such or the complex object.	O
<b>Characteristics</b>		
<b>Height</b> <i>[value and unit]</i>	Provide the height of the article or complex object and the respective unit of measure.	O
<b>Length</b> <i>[value and unit]</i>	Provide the length of the article or complex object and the respective unit of measure.	O
<b>Width</b> <i>[value and unit]</i>	Provide the width of the article or complex object and the respective unit of measure.	O
<b>Diameter</b> <i>[value and unit]</i>	Provide the diameter of the article or complex object and the respective unit of measure.	O
<b>Density</b> <i>[value and unit]</i>	Provide the density and the respective unit.	O
<b>Weight</b> <i>[value and unit]</i>	Provide the weight of the article or complex object and the respective unit of measure.	O
<b>Volume</b> <i>[value and unit]</i>	Provide the volume of the article or complex object and the respective unit of measure.	O
<b>Colour</b>	Provide the colour or colours.	O
<b>Other characteristics*</b> <i>[identification and value]</i>	Provide other characteristic(s) not listed above. Examples could include a quality standard that the article or complex object complies with, or an article specific property such as the opacity of paper.	O

\*Repeatable. The submitter can provide information in this requirement as many times as needed. E.g Under "Picture", more than one visual representation can be provided by adding additional fields for this requirement.

\*\* M = Mandatory; R = Required; O = Optional.



The requirement "Other characteristics" must not be used to include any information regarding the submission of information that must be included under the "complex object component(s)" and "concern elements" requirements (Tables 5 and 6 below, respectively).

### 2.1.3 Safe use instructions

Instructions to ensure the safe use of an article containing a Candidate List substance or a complex object incorporating such articles throughout the whole life cycle including service life, disassembly and waste/recycling stage must be provided in the respective SCIP notifications, when necessary.<sup>38</sup> For example, no particular instruction is necessary to be provided in the SCIP notification to allow safe use of the article containing a Candidate List substance, when exposure can be excluded at all life cycle stages of the article including disposal. When necessary, the safe use instruction(s) must enable all actors in the supply chain and consumers to take, at their


<sup>38</sup> This is explained in more detail in subchapters 3.2.1 and 3.4.1 of the SiA Guidance.

stage of the use of the article, the appropriate risk management measures to guarantee the safe use of articles containing Candidate List substances.<sup>19</sup> It may also include information which is necessary to ensure proper management of the article or complex object once it becomes waste.<sup>26</sup>

Specific instructions describing how to safely disassemble the article or the complex object may also be provided, when relevant.



Table 4 lists and describes the requirements concerning the safe use instructions and disassembling instructions to be provided in a SCIP notification.


**Table 4: Safe use instruction(s) and disassembling instruction(s)**

Requirement	Description	M/R/O**
Safe use instruction(s)		
 <b><i>"The identification of the Candidate List substance is sufficient to allow safe use of the article throughout the whole life cycle including service life, disassembly and waste/recycling stage"</i></b>	Provide this statement to demonstrate that an assessment has been carried following the guidelines in subchapters 3.2.1 and 3.4.1 of the SiA Guidance and the conclusion reached is that no safe use instructions are need to be provided in a SCIP notification to ensure safe use of the article or complex object being reported. I.e. the identification of the Candidate List substance(s) is sufficient to allow safe use of the article as such containing a Candidate List substance or the complex object incorporating articles containing Candidate List substances, being reported, throughout their whole life cycle including service life, disassembly and waste/recycling stage.	#R
<b>Safe use instruction(s)*</b>	Provide simple, clear and concise instruction(s) to ensure safe use of the article or complex object being reported. I.e. instructions deemed as sufficient to allow safe use of the article as such containing Candidate List substance(s) or the complex object incorporating articles containing Candidate List substances, being reported. It must cover when deemed necessary their whole life cycle including service life, disassembly and waste/recycling stage. Such instructions should result from an assessment carried out following the guidelines in subchapters 3.2.1 and 3.4.1 of the SiA Guidance.	
Disassembling instruction(s)		
<b>Disassembling instructions*</b>	Provide specific instructions describing how to safely disassemble the article or the complex object by uploading one or more documents in a defined format. Specify the language used in the document(s).	O

\*Repeatable. The submitter can provide as many instructions as needed to provide the necessary information related with the article as such or the complex object.

\*\* M = Mandatory; #R = Required (but the identification of the Candidate List substance may in some cases be sufficient); O = Optional.

 At least one of the safe use instructions requirements must be fulfilled, i.e. either the statement marked by  in Table 4 is provided and no data needs to be submitted according to WFD Article 9(1)(i) pursuant REACH Article 33(1) or safe use instructions need to be provided in the SCIP notification according to the same provisions.

 The requirement "Safe use instruction(s)" must not be used to include any information regarding the submission of information that must be included under the "complex object

component(s)" and "concern elements" requirements (Tables 5 and 6 below, respectively).

When assessing the safe use of an article throughout the whole life cycle, it is important to keep in mind that humans may be exposed to substances released from articles e.g. by inhaling gases or particles (inhalation route), by contact with the skin (dermal route), or by swallowing (ingestion/oral route). Substances can be released from articles into the different environmental compartments (water, air, soil and sediments). All exposure routes at all life cycle stages have to be considered (service life of the article and waste stage) when assessing the potential for exposure.

The potential for release of a substance from an article depends, for example, on:

- Physicochemical properties of **the substance**, like molecular weight, vapour pressure, water solubility, stability in contact with air, water, etc.
- Structure and chemistry of **the article matrix** including physicochemical parameters and the way in which the substance is incorporated in it (chemically bonded or not). The stability of the article matrix and the bonds between the substance and the matrix during the different life cycle stages of the article.
- Concentration of the substance in the article or its integral parts (e.g. coatings).
- **The conditions of use and disposal** of the article, such as:
  - Location of use (indoor or outdoor use, private homes, workplace, etc.).
  - Physical conditions at place of use (temperature, ventilation, etc.).
  - Whether or not it is incorporated and how in a complex object.
  - Whether or not it is further processed.
  - Whether or not it is part of a comprehensive waste collection scheme.
  - Whether or it is subject to abrasion (during normal wear and tear).
  - The disposal or treatment technology.

Some chemical substances are very firmly bound in the material, and the potential emission of these substances during use is therefore low. Other substances are loosely incorporated in a matrix, e.g. softening additives in PVC. Such substances, like phthalates, are continuously emitted from the surface of the article. Substances may also be released through normal wear and tear of articles (abrasion). In this case, the substances are released together with the article matrix, e.g. substances in car tyres. Furthermore, it is also important to take into account that inherent physicochemical properties of the substance and the matrix of the article, or a special coating of the article, may prevent the substance migrating out of it.

## 2.2 Additional requirements for complex objects only

The SCIP database must include information that allows the identification of the specific article containing the Candidate List substance, in particular its 'location' when incorporated in a complex object. When the article is incorporated into a complex object, this article must be identified within this complex object, as well as the complex object incorporating the article. In most cases, the article is incorporated within subcomponents and components, which are complex objects, of a larger complex object.

The information requirements specified in this section apply to complex objects only, either when they are a top level entity or a complex object component (*component* entity). For each complex object, the SCIP notification must include the information concerning each one of its concerned components which can be either another complex object or an article as such (Figure 2). The term concerned component means articles as such containing a Candidate List substance or a complex object (component of the 'parent' complex object) incorporating such articles.



### 2.2.1 Complex object component(s)

Table 5 lists and describes the requirements concerning the complex object components (of a 'parent' complex object).

**Table 5: Complex object component(s) (only for complex objects)**

Requirement	Description	M/R/O**
<b>Complex object component(s)*</b>	Provide links to a component (either a complex object component or an article as such component) of the complex object, and fulfil the requirements set out in section 2.1 for that component. If the linked component is a complex object, then the requirements in this table need to be provided for that component. If the linked component is an article as such, then the requirements set out in section 2.3 for concern elements needs to be provided for that article.  This requirement does not apply to an article as such.	<b>M</b> (only applicable to complex objects)
<b>Number of units*</b>	Provide the number of occurrences of the linked component in the complex object.  Example: In the bicycle example shown in Figure 3, there are 2 units of the wheel and two units of the handlebar grip in the bicycle. For the wheel, there is 1 tyre unit and 1 inner tube unit in the wheel. In the inner tube unit, there is 1 doughnut-shaped tube.  This requirement does not apply to an article as such.	O

\*Repeatable. The submitter can link as many components and respective number of units as needed to provide the necessary information related to the complex object.

\*\* **M** = Mandatory; R = Required; O = Optional.

The flow chart in Figure 2 shows how the requirement for complex object component(s) can be fulfilled when preparing a SCIP notification.

To better illustrate how the requirements in Table 5 should work, following the flow chart in Figure 2, Figure 3 illustrates how the information requirements are organised and structured in a SCIP notification for a hypothetical bicycle placed on the EU market by an EU assembler or an EU importer<sup>39</sup> incorporating several articles containing a Candidate List substance (> 0.1% w/w), namely the (2) handlebar grips, the (2) tyres and the (2) flexible doughnut-shaped tubes. The information in a SCIP notification for this hypothetical bicycle should only concern those articles and their 'location' in the bicycle.

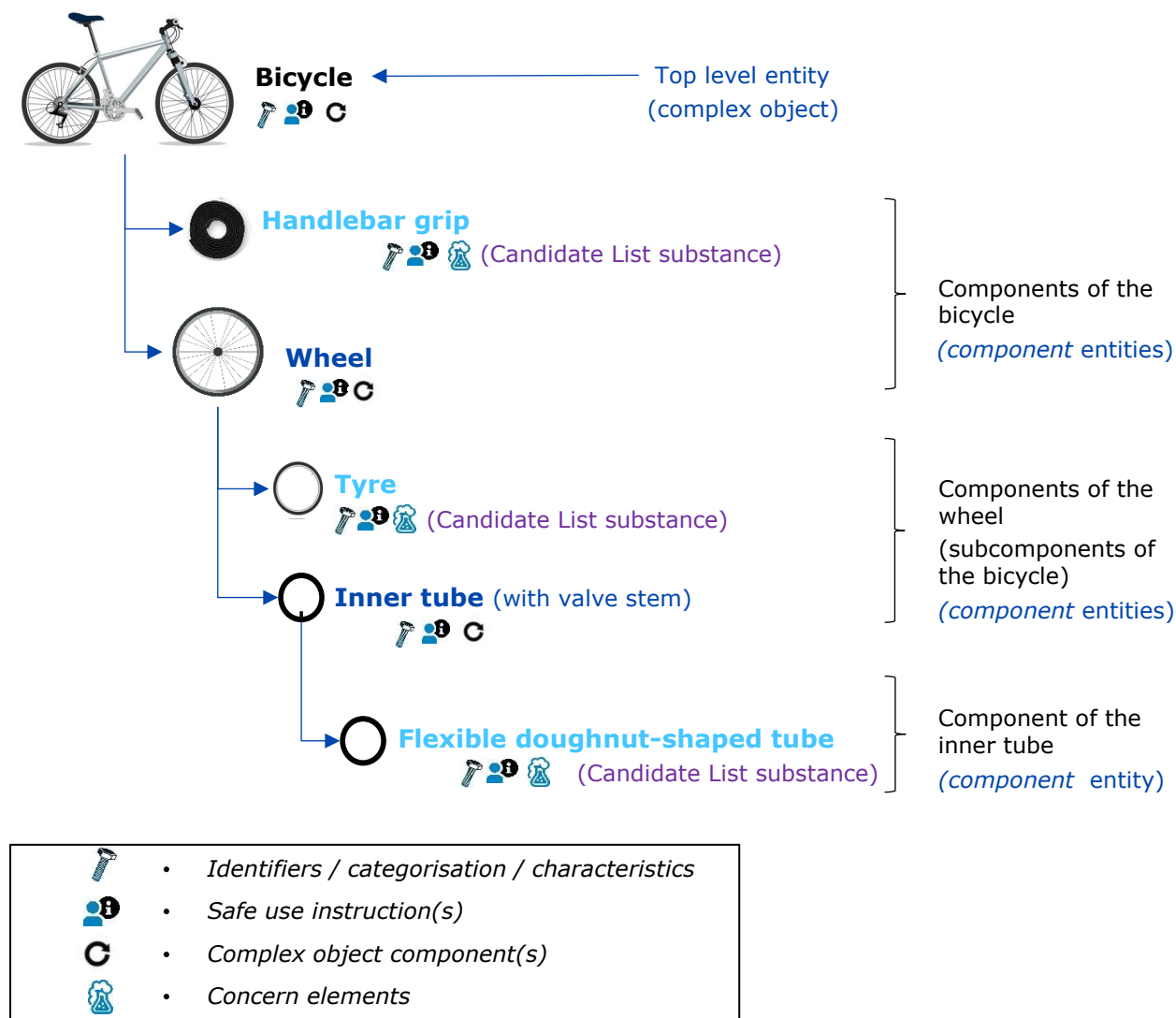
When preparing and creating a SCIP notification for this (hypothetical) bicycle placed on the market, the bicycle is by definition a complex object and a top level entity in that notification. Therefore, the information needed to fulfil the requirements given in the section 2.1 needs to be included in the SCIP notification, i.e. information concerning identifiers and categorisation (section 2.1.1), characteristics and picture(s) (section 2.1.2), and safe use instruction(s) (section 2.1.3), as illustrated in Figure 3 by the respective symbols. The bicycle incorporates two concerned components that must be included in the SCIP notification: the handlebar grip (2 units), which is an article as such containing a Candidate List substance, and a wheel (2 units), which is a complex object. The wheel (which is a complex object) also incorporates 2 concerned components, the tyre (1 unit) which is an article as such and the inner tube with valve stem (1 unit), which is a complex object. The inner tube only incorporates a concerned article as such,

<sup>39</sup> This example follows closely the example 23 in Appendix 6 of the SiA Guidance.

the flexible doughnut-shaped tube (1 unit).

From this description, the information to be provided following the requirements in Table 5 could be structured in the SCIP notification for the (hypothetical) bicycle (as placed on the market – top level entity) by linking the components and subcomponents accordingly, as illustrated in Figure 3.

**Figure 3: Illustration on how the information requirements are organised and structured in a SCIP notification for a bicycle placed on the EU market by an assembler or an importer.**



This example also shows that due to the relatively low number of articles containing Candidate List substances compared to the total number of articles incorporated in a complex object, only a small part of the whole structure of a complex object needs to be provided in a SCIP notification.

The handlebar grip (2 units) and the wheel (2 units) need to be reported in the SCIP notification for the bicycle as complex object components of that top level entity (Figure 2).

Concerning the handlebar grip (article as such), the information concerning the requirements in the section 2.1 need to be provided in the SCIP notification in another block of information termed *component* entity, which needs to also include the information necessary to fulfil the requirements set out in the next section (section 2.3) regarding the concern elements. When including this *component* entity for the handlebar grip as a complex object component, we are linking the handlebar grip component to the 'parent' complex object, the bicycle. Regarding the



wheel (complex object) as a bicycle component, the requirements addressed in the section 2.1 of this document need to be provided in the SCIP notification in the respective *component* entity (independent block of information) linked to the bicycle top level entity. The requirements in this section should also be provided in that *component* entity created for the wheel, i.e. the components tyre (1 unit) and inner tube (1 unit) must be linked to the 'parent' complex object, which is in this case the wheel (Figure 2). Therefore, 2 other *component* entities need to be created for the tyre and the inner tube within the requirements addressed in this section for the wheel components (Table 5). The same reasoning is applied to the inner tube component, the flexible doughnut-shaped tube.

The *component* entities created for the handlebar grip, the tyre and the flexible doughnut-shaped tube (all articles as such) as complex object components of the bicycle, wheel, and inner tube, respectively (Figure 2), need to contain the information required by the requirements set out in section 2.1 and in section 2.3., the requirements for concern elements, only applicable to articles as such.

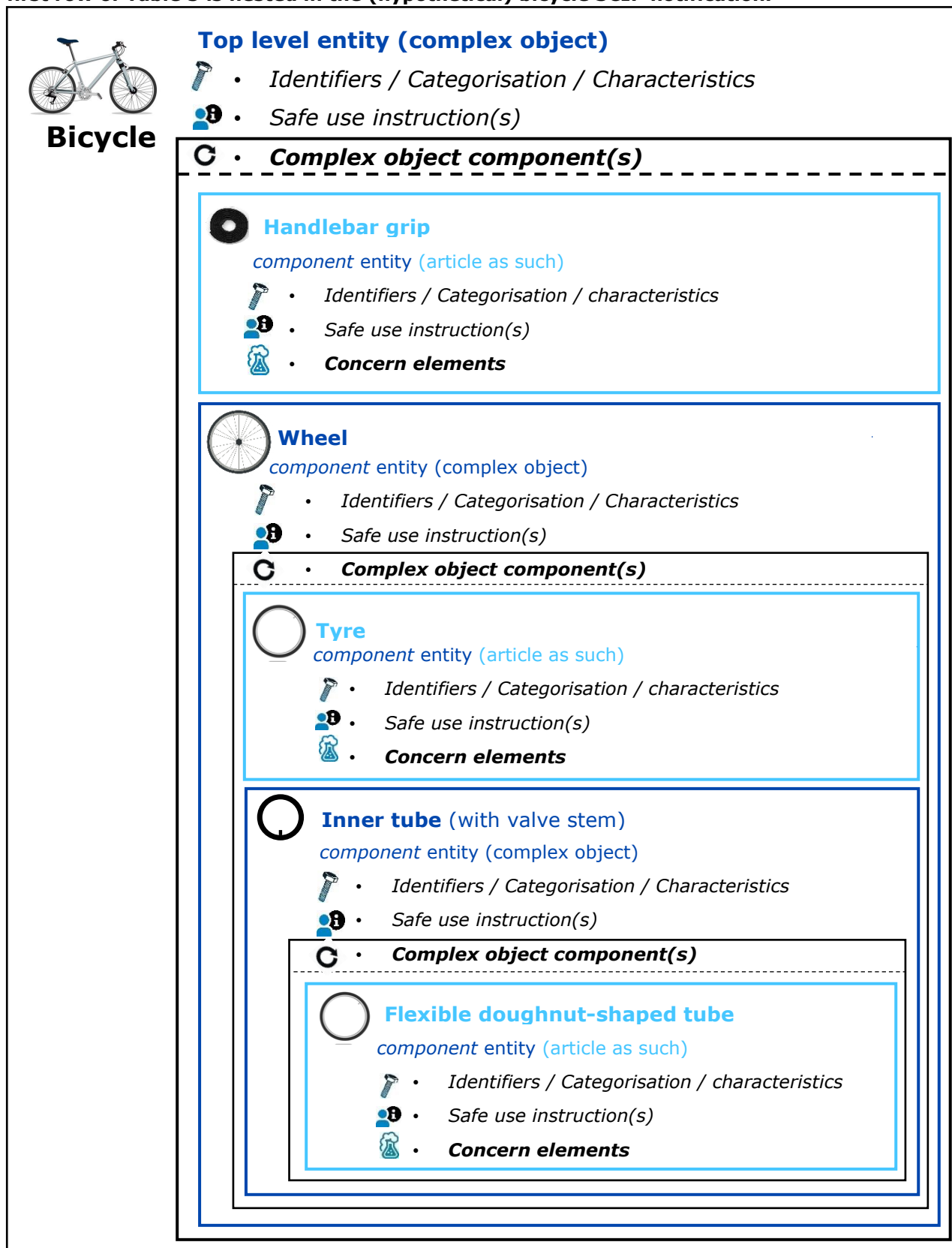
From the bicycle example illustrated and explained above, it is possible to conclude that under the complex object component(s) section in a SCIP notification for a complex object top level entity or for other *component* entities created for complex objects within that notification, the submitter is linking the components (either a complex object component or an article as such component) to the respective 'parent' complex object. There is no limit to how many levels of "nesting" of complex objects in a complex object can be defined. Figure 4 shows a different representation of the bicycle example described above to illustrate how the information is provided within each *component* entity, each one of them working as an 'envelope' for the information to be included for each linked complex object component, i.e. it shows how the information for the components and subcomponents of the bicycle are nested in the SCIP notification under the complex object component(s) requirement (black rectangles).

Figure 4 also shows that the data to be provided to fulfil the requirements under section 2.1 and this section should be seen as a recurrent block of information for complex objects incorporating successively other complex objects as components until the chain closes when the linked complex object component is an article as such containing the candidate List substance (Figure 2), for which data needs to be provided to fulfil the requirements under section 2.3 for the concern elements.



According to the SCIP format, in a SCIP notification, any object for which the information concerning the concern elements is provided according to section 2.3, the object is set as an article as such, because it cannot have components. This results from the fact that an article as such is understood as the most granular or basic unit, in which an article can exist after being produced.

Figure 4: Illustration of how the information to be provided according to requirement in the first row of Table 5 is nested in the (hypothetical) bicycle SCIP notification.



## 2.3 Additional requirements for articles as such only

The information requirements specified in this section apply to articles only, either on their own or in complex objects, but not to complex objects. This has been briefly explained in the previous section.

A Candidate List substance can be incorporated into an article (in its matrix) during its production, when the article is made from a Candidate List substance as such or from a mixture containing in its composition a Candidate List substance. It can also later on be incorporated into/onto an existing article in a further processing step by using the Candidate List substance as such or contained in a mixture (e.g. coatings, primers, adhesives, sealants) and therefore the substance or mixture becomes an integral part of the article. Candidate List substances can also be present in articles for other reasons, in particular as impurities due for example to chemical transformation or degradation during production and further processing of articles.

Under the concern elements, the submitter is required to identify the Candidate List substances present in the article, in which concentration range, and in which material the substance is present as part of the article's chemical composition.

### 2.3.1 Concern elements

The concern elements associate the relevant chemical composition to the article in the SCIP notification. It includes the basic relevant information to be taken into account together with the function or use of the article (section 2.1.1.5) and where it is located in a complex object (section 2.2.1), if that is the case, among other relevant information available, to identify the potential release of the substance from the article, which should serve as the basis to assess the safe use of the article by considering all of its life-cycle stages, including when it becomes waste (section 2.1.3). That assessment should lead to the decision on whether or not safe use instructions must be provided according to the requirements set out in Table 4. Furthermore, the information to be provided for the concern elements requirements is important for the waste treatment phase of the article's lifecycle to ensure proper management of the article once it becomes waste and enable the identification and effective treatment of waste containing Candidate List substances, by e.g. reducing their presence in recycled materials, in order to foster recycling in non-toxic material cycles and the production of secondary raw materials of high quality.


Table 6 lists and shortly describes the requirements for concern elements of an article in a SCIP notification.

**Table 6: Concern elements (only for articles containing a Candidate List substance in a concentration above 0.1% w/w)**

Concern element(s)*		M
Specific requirement	Description	M/R/O**
<b>Candidate List Substance*<sup>1</sup></b>	Provide the identification of the Candidate List substance present in the article as included in the official Candidate List of substances of very high concern for Authorisation (published in accordance with Article 59(10) of the REACH Regulation).	M


Concern element(s)*		M
Specific requirement	Description	M/R/O**
<b>Concentration range</b> * <sup>1</sup>	Provide the concentration of the Candidate List substance in the article in terms of concentration ranges weight by weight (w/w). The concentration range (percentage w/w) is provided from a list of pre-defined ranges, one of them being the whole range that triggers the SCIP notification obligation: > 0.1% w/w and ≤ 100% w/w.	R
<b>Material or mixture categories</b>		
<b>Material category</b> * <sup>2</sup>	Provide the identification of the material that the article is made of ( <i>article matrix</i> ) where the Candidate List substance is present. The identification of the material that the article is made of ( <i>article matrix</i> ) is provided from a pre-defined list of materials categories, established by ECHA (Appendix 1). The list includes general broad categories, each one of them including subcategories, except the category 'Other'. Each category, except the 'Other' category, contain at least one broad subcategory which is aimed at fulfilling this requirement for materials not covered by other specific subcategories within a category. They also allow (as well as the 'Other' category), when justified, to report information without being too detailed, including when more detailed information is not available.	#M
<b>Additional material characteristic(s)</b> * <sup>2</sup>	Provide, when relevant, additional information on the material the article is made of from a pre-defined list of characteristics <sup>40</sup> or by including a relevant characteristic <sup>40</sup> . This requirement complements the previous requirement on the 'material category' in better describing the material that an article is made of.	O

<sup>40</sup> The term 'characteristic' or 'characteristics' (of the material an article is made of) in this row must not be confused with the 'characteristics' mentioned in Table 3, which refer to characteristics of the article or complex object being reported.

Concern element(s)*		M
Specific requirement	Description	M/R/O**
<b>Mixture category</b>	<p>Provide, when relevant, the identification of a mixture containing the Candidate List substance(s) incorporated in the further processing step (e.g. coating) of an article or incorporated when joining or assembling two or more articles in a complex object (e.g. adhesive, solder).</p> <p>That identification is provided from a pre-defined list of mixture categories (the European product categorisation system (<a href="#">EuPCS</a>) used to describe 'the intended use of a mixture'<sup>41</sup>).</p> <p>The EuPCS includes broad categories. These broad categories, within the scope of a SCIP notification, are mainly aimed at fulfilling this requirement, when justified, without being too detailed, including when more detailed information is not available.</p> <p>The mixture category allows to identify where in the article the Candidate List substance is present, for example if the substance is not present in the main material of the article matrix. It is also needed for that purpose for certain objects that are regarded as articles containing an integral substance/mixture according to chapter 2 of the SiA Guidance (e.g. thermometer with liquid and battery), where the material category is not suitable.</p>	#M 

\*Repeatable as a block; \*<sup>1</sup>Repeatable; \*<sup>2</sup>Repeatable together (as a block). The submitter can provide information in this requirement as many times as needed for this requirement as a block, individually or together to provide the necessary information.

\*\* M = Mandatory, #M = Mandatory to provide at least the material category or the mixture category according to each requirement; R = Required (but an option with a wide range is available); O = Optional.

 It is mandatory to select a material category or a mixture category to submit a SCIP notification accordingly to the SCIP format. However, the category "Other" and broad subcategories (within the categories) are available from the pre-defined lists which does not require provision of detailed information in certain situations, when justified, for example when the information is not available to the submitter. Nevertheless, the submitter is always encouraged to obtain more detailed information from their suppliers to better support the objectives of the SCIP database (section 1.1). The submitters can also provide both a material category and a mixture category, if that is relevant to better describe the article containing Candidate List substances (e.g. the same Candidate List substance is present in both the article matrix and in a coating).

### 2.3.1.1 Candidate List Substance

The identification of the Candidate List substance present in the article needs to be provided in a SCIP notification as included in the official [Candidate List](#) of substances of very high concern for Authorisation, namely the substance name (as appears in the Candidate List) and its numerical identifiers (EC number and CAS number), if available.

<sup>41</sup> The [EuPCS](#) is developed within the scope of the notifications to poison centres under Article 45 and Annex VIII of the CLP Regulation.

Substances fulfilling one or more of the criteria defined in Article 57 of the REACH Regulation can be identified as Substances of Very High Concern (SVHC) and put on the Candidate List for Authorisation. These SVHC can be:

- substances meeting the criteria for classification as carcinogenic, mutagenic or reprotoxic (CMR) category 1A or 1B
- persistent, bioaccumulative and toxic (PBT) substances or very persistent and very bioaccumulative (vPvB) substances
- substances identified on a case-by-case basis for which there is scientific evidence of probable serious effects to human health or the environment which give rise to an equivalent level of concern, e.g. endocrine disruptors

The [Candidate List](#) is available on the website of ECHA. It has been established according to the procedure described in Article 59 and published in accordance with Article 59(10) of the REACH Regulation (SVHC identification). If a substance listed on the Candidate List is contained in articles in a concentration above 0.1% w/w, this triggers the SCIP notification duty.

It should be noted that the Candidate List is regularly updated, usually twice a year, when more substances are [identified as SVHC](#).

### 2.3.1.2 Concentration range

The determination of the concentration of a Candidate List substance in an article is essential to check whether the SCIP notification and REACH communication obligations apply, as well as the Substance in Article notification under REACH Article 7(2).

Chapter 3.2.3.1 of the [Guidance on requirements for substances in articles](#) explains how to determine the concentration of a Candidate List substance in an article. Table 5 under that chapter illustrates several scenarios on how to determine the concentration of a Candidate List substance (weight by weight (w/w)) in an article. These scenarios represent the most common ways of incorporating a Candidate List substance into an article (isolated or incorporated in a complex object). The approaches for the scenarios of articles incorporated into complex objects and of partially coated articles are driven by practical considerations, in order to overcome the specific challenges of calculating the concentration in these particular cases, while ensuring that the main principles and objectives of the substance in articles provisions are fulfilled. It should be noted that the determination of the concentration of a Candidate List substance in an article must always be done on a case-by-case basis. The rules set for articles incorporated into complex objects should not lead to inapplicability of the obligations for each article individually considered and to the submission or communication of a lower amount or lower quality of information needed to ensure the safe use of the article.

The list of pre-defined concentration ranges weight by weight (w/w) are the following:

- > 0.1% w/w and < 0.3% w/w;
- ≥ 0.3% w/w and < 1.0% w/w;
- ≥ 1.0% w/w and < 10.0% w/w;
- ≥ 10.0% w/w and < 20.0% w/w;
- ≥ 20.0% w/w and < 100% w/w;
- > 0.1% w/w and ≤ 100% w/w<sup>42</sup>.

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<sup>42</sup> Same as indicating that the concentration of the Candidate List substance in the article is above 0.1% w/w.

These ranges with the exception of the lower limit of the first concentration range and the last concentration range are based on the most relevant concentration limits set out in Annex III to the [Waste Framework Directive](#) (WFD) for properties of waste which render it hazardous, in particular for carcinogenicity (HP 7) and mutagenicity (HP 11), reprotoxicity (HP 10)<sup>43</sup>, specific target organ toxicity – STOT (HP 5), and sensitisation (HP13).

### 2.3.1.3 Material or mixture categories

From the definition of article under REACH, articles can be differentiated among themselves based on the function (and uses), chemical composition and physical form (shape, surface or design). Information submitted to the SCIP database must allow the identification of the article containing the Candidate List substance, such as the 'location', when available, in particular when the article is incorporated in complex objects.

The 'material category' field consists of providing, without specifying in great detail, information on the material of which the article containing the Candidate List substance is made of. This requirement does not imply submitting information that fully describes the chemical composition of the article, only what is needed in order to:

- i) allowing the identification of the article (based on the material), e.g. office desk table tops have the same function and uses and can only be differentiated by the material they are made of (e.g. PVC plastic, borosilicate glass, wood);
- ii) allowing waste operators to identify the material the article is made of and therefore letting them adapt or improve the management and treatment practices within the material based waste streams accordingly.

Mixtures as such are excluded from the scope of the SCIP notification obligation. However, in cases where the Candidate List substance is incorporated in article(s) by using a mixture containing that substance when joining or assembling two or more articles in a complex object (e.g. adhesive, solder) or when coating an article with a coating mixture<sup>44</sup>, the 'mixture category' should be reported ([EuPCS](#)) to refer to the solid state material incorporated in articles as a result of using those mixtures (e.g. adhesives, solders, coatings) instead of reporting a 'material category'. In addition, the mixture category may need to be used for objects that are regarded as articles containing an integral substance/mixture according to chapter 2 of the SiA Guidance (e.g. a thermometer with liquid and a battery). No further information is required on those mixtures in addition to the indication of the category as defined in the EuPCS.

The pre-defined list of material categories (Appendix 1), established by ECHA in the SCIP format, includes broader subcategories within the main material categories which allow the reporting of information at a more general level, for example, it is possible to report that an article is made of

- iron or alloys of iron (under metal category);
- other non-specified alloy of non-ferrous metal (under metal category);
- other non-specified non-halogenated copolymer (under plastic (and polymers) category);
- other non-specified halogenated copolymer (under plastic (and polymers) category);
- other non-specified rubber (under rubber and elastomers category);
- other non-specified synthetic textile fibre (under textile fibres and other fibres).

It also includes the category 'Other' to cover materials that cannot be identified by using other categories/subcategories or when that information is not available.

The EuPCS also includes broader categories which allow the reporting of information at a more

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<sup>43</sup> The concentration limit for Repr.2 in Table 7 of Annex III to the WFD is not considered in these ranges.

<sup>44</sup> See Table 5 in subchapter 3.2.3.1 of the SiA Guidance



general level, for example, it is possible to report that the mixture containing the Candidate List substance incorporated into the article is

- other non-specified adhesives and sealants;
- other non-specified paints and coating materials.

When the information is not available at the level required by both categories, the submitter is encouraged to obtain more detailed information from their suppliers to better support the objectives of the SCIP database (section 1.1).

## 2.4 Keeping submitted information to the SCIP database up to date

Successful submission of the information to the SCIP database is the basic requirement before placing on the EU market an article containing a Candidate List substance in a concentration above 0.1% w/w, or a complex object incorporating such an article. This requires the submission of a SCIP notification according to the requirements set out in sections 2.1 to 2.3 of this document.

ECHA does not perform any quality check of the information submitted by a duty holder in addition to the execution of programmed validation rules applied by the ECHA Submission Portal<sup>31</sup>. The information submitted to the SCIP database will be publicly available and therefore readily available to waste operators to bridge the current gap in the information flow from supply chains to waste chains, and to consumers. ECHA publishes the information as received, on its website, and ensures the protection of confidential business information where justified.<sup>45</sup> For example, the mandatory data submitted that might allow establishing links between actors in the same supply chain is not made publicly available (e.g. alphanumeric identifiers of components within complex objects).

The publicly available information in the SCIP database is subject to scrutiny by users of the database, namely waste operators, consumers, NGOs representing the interests of consumers, and Member States authorities. The responsibility for the quality, accuracy, completeness and robustness of the submitted data always remains with each duty holder.

The submission of up-to-date information to a previously successful SCIP notification can result, eventually among others, from:

- a regulatory change that leads to a mandatory submission of up-to-date information, in particular when a substance present in an article (in a concentration above 0.1% w/w) is included in the Candidate List after 5 January 2021;
- a change in the composition of a complex object, in terms of components and subcomponents incorporating articles as such containing Candidate List substances;
- a request from a Member State authority to submit additional information to a SCIP notification, for example if the submitted information does not ensure compliance with the SCIP notification duty;
- any changes that the submitter considers relevant to update a SCIP notification on a voluntary basis, for example if a Candidate List substance present in an article has been substituted by a safer alternative.

The submitter can always update the previously successful submitted SCIP notification after 5 January 2021 on a voluntary basis if there are changes to the information already submitted or if there is a need to correct any information previously submitted.

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<sup>45</sup> Further information about the dissemination of SCIP data and confidentiality is available in the ECHA website ([SCIP webpage](#)).



### 2.4.1 Voluntary update when a Candidate List substance present in an article has been substituted by a safer alternative

A duty holder can make efforts to substitute the use of Candidate List substances by safer alternatives in the chemical composition of articles or in the mixtures used in further processing steps of articles, including when joining articles in or into complex objects. Therefore, there are articles on their own or in complex objects placed on the EU market which previously included Candidate List substances and due to those substitution efforts they no longer contain those substances. In such cases, there is an optional requirement included in the SCIP format that allows the submitter to voluntarily submit updated information to the notification for that article or to notifications of complex objects incorporating that article, by indicating that a Candidate List substance is no longer present in that article. This optional requirement applies to articles only, either on their own or in complex objects, but not to complex objects, as those requirements set out in section 2.3.

Eventually, the information provided under the safe use instruction(s) requirements (Table 4 under section 2.1.3) for the article or complex object(s) incorporating it needs to be also updated to change already submitted instructions to take into account the substitution of the substance.

This requirement is designed to be used to indicate that the Candidate List substance identified as present in an article, in a previous successful submitted SCIP notification when providing the information according to the requirements in Table 6 under section 2.3.1 for that article, is no longer present in that article. By submitting information under this optional requirement, it replaces the full block of information provided in the previous notification under the concern elements requirements (Table 6) in the updated SCIP notification for that article as such. Therefore, this requirement is included in the SCIP format under the 'Concern elements' section.

Table 7 shortly describes that optional requirement.

**Table 7: Candidate list substance no longer present**

Requirement	Description	M/R/O**
<b>Candidate List substance no longer present*</b>	Provide that the Candidate List substance (previously present in the article) is no longer present in the article in a concentration above 0.1% w/w, e.g. as a result of substitution of the Candidate List substance by a safer alternative.	O

\*Repeatable. The submitter can provide information in this requirement as many times as needed for this requirement to provide the necessary information.

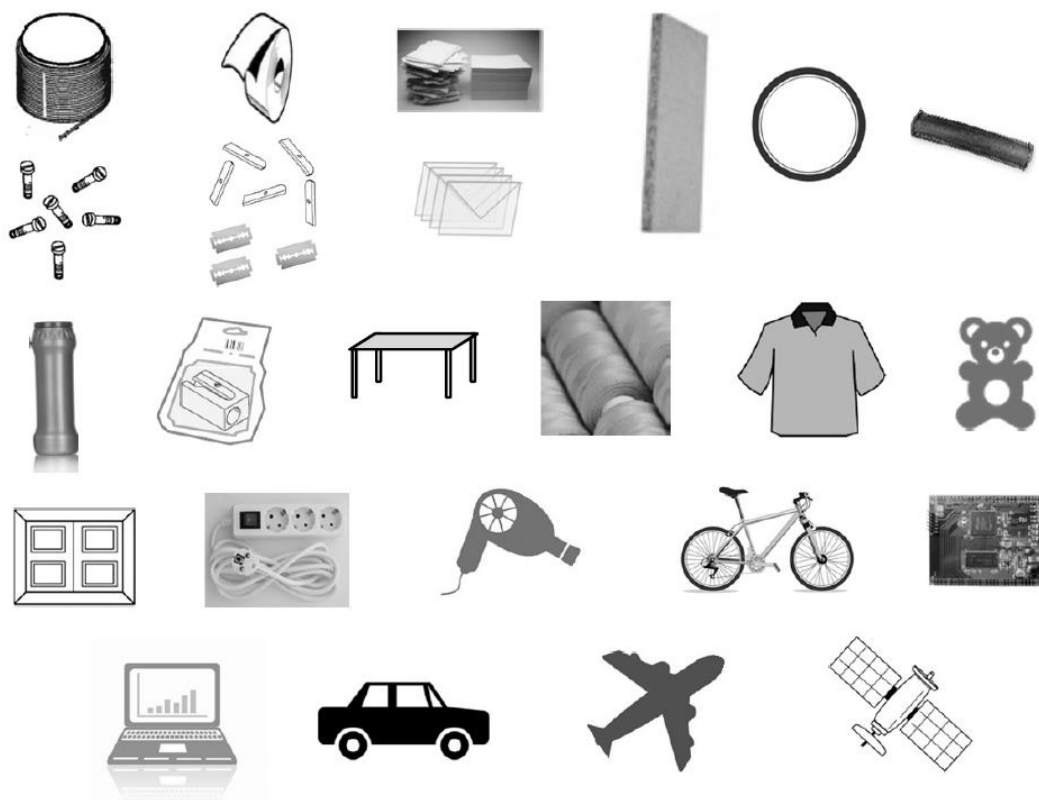
\*\* M = Mandatory; R = Required; O = Optional.

### 3. Recommended solutions for the level of reporting in the SCIP notifications: 'grouping' and 'hierarchy'

All supplied articles on their own or in complex objects containing Candidate List substances in a concentration above 0.1% w/w have to be notified to ECHA by submitting a SCIP notification, therefore not only the final off-the shelf complex objects (products). While the SCIP notification duty does not apply to all articles and complex objects (i.e. object made up of more than one article) placed on the EU market, there is a large volume of articles and complex objects which could be potentially covered by the SCIP notification duty, from very simple articles to highly complex objects as shown in the examples provided in Figure 5. Its scope is very broad across products and sectors (from metal wires and sheets to screws and blades, from paper sheets to paper goods like envelopes, plywood boards, tyres, tubes, bottles, office supplies, furniture, yarns, clothing, toys, windows frames, electric extensions and plugs, household appliances, bicycles, electronic components, electronic devices, motor vehicles, airplanes, satellites, etc.), as well as transversely to all different stages of production and assembly chains as also illustrated in Figure 5 by showing e.g. articles made from substances or mixtures, articles produced from further processing of (*semi-finished*) articles, articles which are further assembled as components in complex objects, and complex objects which are themselves further assembled as components in larger complex objects. Hence, there are also many potential companies placing articles and complex objects on the market impacted by this duty.

**Figure 5: Illustration of the potential very broad scope of the SCIP notification duty.**

*(The examples are shown for illustration purposes only. It does not necessarily mean that the articles as such shown usually contain Candidate List substances or that some simpler complex objects shown usually incorporate articles containing such substances)*



As a starting point, the best recommendations that can be provided to companies to reduce the impact of the SCIP notification duty, as well as the communication down the supply chain under REACH Article 33(1) are the following, whenever possible:

- Substitute Candidate List substance present in the chemical composition of articles by safer alternatives;
- Select suppliers which supply components and subcomponents without incorporating articles as such containing Candidate List substances;
- Safe-by-design: Under the conception and design stage of a new complex object (product), take into account the possibility of avoiding the use of components and subcomponents incorporating articles containing Candidate List substances.

If no Candidate List substances are present in articles on their own or in articles in complex objects placed on the market, there is no obligation to submit SCIP notifications to ECHA. Alternatively, if at least the number of articles containing Candidate List substances in complex objects can be minimised in the different assembling stages, the preparation and submission of SCIP notifications can be dramatically facilitated.

However, this is not always possible economically or technically.

Due to the potentially broad scope of the SCIP notification duty, the information requirements (section 2), the submission SCIP format and tools were developed as a solution capable of applying to all possible situations to be able to cope with the diversity of possible articles and complex objects potentially covered by that duty. Therefore, they

- offer flexibility on how to report information according to the requirements set out in sections 2.1, 2.2 and 2.3 to the SCIP database;
- increase the responsibility of submitters towards compliance; and
- create flexibility on the appropriate level of structuring and submitting information to ECHA.

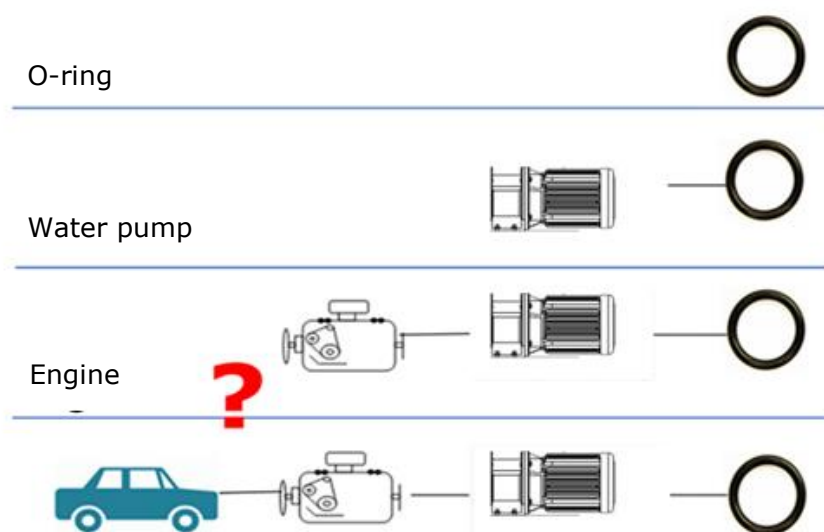
All these factors present a workability challenge, in particular in terms of the large number of SCIP notifications to be submitted to ECHA, and the potential volume of data to be submitted.

The number of individual SCIP notifications is likely to increase with the number and assembling layers of components and subcomponents incorporating articles containing Candidate List substances and with the number of those articles as such in complex objects. In addition, the volume of data and the complexity of structuring the information in a SCIP notification can become more difficult as the complexity of the complex object increases. As an example, Figure 6 illustrates the possible assembling layers concerning a rubber O-ring with a Candidate List substance which is incorporated in a water pump, which is assembled in an engine, and finally the engine is incorporated in a vehicle. Other assembling layers (not shown) may exist concerning the vehicle if other articles as such contain Candidate List substances (e.g. O-ring in the engine's distributor, a resistor's component in an electronic device, plastic caps in the tyres valves).

For very complex objects (e.g. smartphones, vehicles) another important question is how many layers of components and subcomponents have to be reported in a SCIP notification, in order for a user of the SCIP database, namely waste operators, consumers, and MS authorities, to be able to identify and locate the article containing a Candidate List substance.

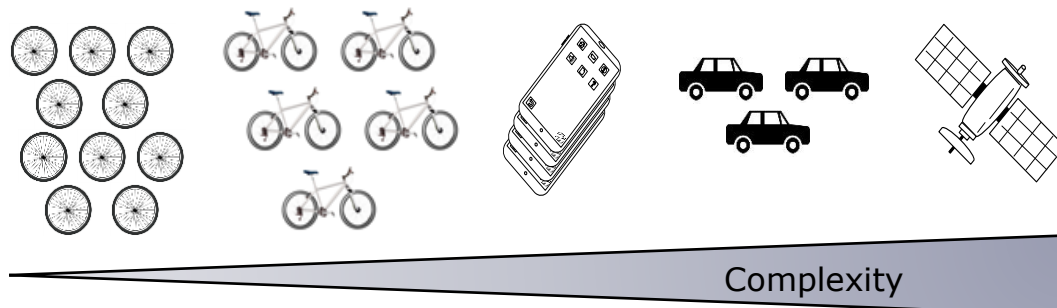
This, together with the question whether a certain level of grouping of identical or similar articles into one notification would be possible, can address some of the possible impacts on the workability and the dissemination of data in the SCIP database, taking into account its objectives listed in section 1.1.

**Figure 6: Illustration of the possible assembling layers need to identify an O-ring (article as such) containing a Candidate List substance (> 0.1% w/w) within a water pump incorporated in the engine of a passengers vehicle.**



However, the number of SCIP notifications due to such complexity does not affect in the same way all products placed on the market and the impact may be small for many less complex objects such as a wheel, a bicycle, a seat, outdoor equipment, DIY tools, indoor textiles, and simple electric appliances. Figure 7 shows how the complexity increases from some kinds of complex objects compared to others as they are placed on the market. The number of units in that Figure also represents (without any proportionality meaning) that the more complex an object is, usually (but not always) fewer units of that kind of complex object are placed on the market (as a final product).

**Figure 7: Representation of complexity among different kinds of complex objects.**



For achieving the goals of the SCIP database, the number of the layers of components and subcomponents may be reduced when preparing a SCIP notification and identical articles and complex objects placed on the market may be grouped by following suitable criteria based on practical considerations.

Furthermore, there is a need to ensure the protection of the commercial interests of submitters for the information submitted to ECHA in SCIP notifications, in particular information that could reveal links between actors in the supply chain. The information requirements set out in section 2 already include some measures to avoid the submission of information that could undermine those interests, for example no details are requested concerning the chemical composition of articles, it is only required to identify the main material that an article is made of or the category of the mixture incorporated in articles in a further processing step of the article and the Candidate List substance present in the article, as well as its concentration range in the article (Table 6 under section 2.3.1). Another example is the requirement to identify the function or use of the

article (article category in Table 2 under section 2.1.1) by selecting an article category from pre-defined CN/TARIC codes and descriptions (based on the TARIC list) which do not require the submission of a precise function, use or application of the article or complex object.

Concerning the dissemination of data to be made publicly available, in order to avoid the establishment of links between actors in the supply chain by any means from that data, the following information is not made available:

- the identity of the submitters (duty holders);
- specific names (e.g. brand, model) or (alphanumeric or numeric) identifiers of components in complex objects.

All other information submitted to ECHA is published as received on the ECHA website. The quality, accuracy, completeness and robustness of the submitted data always remains under the responsibility of each submitter, as well as the responsibility of not submitting any data that may be considered to undermine their commercial interests. The names and identifiers of articles on their own placed on the market as submitted to the SCIP database (top level entities) are disclosed. Concerning complex objects (products) as placed on the market, the names and identifiers submitted in a SCIP notification (top level entities) are also disclosed; however, regarding the components and subcomponents only the name and the article category – harmonised description based on function and use by using the pre-defined CN/TARIC codes and descriptions – are made publicly available, as well as safe use instructions, disassembling instructions and characteristics. For example, if there are SCIP notifications for a bicycle submitted to ECHA by several actors in the supply chain, the name of any submitter is not made public, but information about the bicycle, such as the brand and model, is disclosed. In addition, if the bicycle includes a tyre of a certain brand and model, this specific information is also not made available, but the SCIP database shows that the tyre (component identifiable from the name, the article category, and the material category, as well as from the characteristics, picture and safe use instructions if provided) incorporated in that bicycle contains a specific Candidate List substance.

In the next sections, the following questions are addressed:

- Can identical or quasi-identical articles and complex objects be submitted in one SCIP notification ('grouping')?
- How many layers of components and subcomponents of a complex object have to be included in a SCIP notification in order to allow the identification and 'location' of the article containing a Candidate List substance ('hierarchy')?

### 3.1 Criteria for 'grouping' identical or quasi-identical articles and complex objects in a SCIP notification

In this section, several criteria are provided to allow 'grouping' in a SCIP notification for:

- '*Fully identical*' articles placed on the EU market on their own;
- '*Quasi-identical*' articles placed on the EU market on their own;
- '*Quasi-identical*' complex objects placed on the EU market.

#### 3.1.1 Criteria for 'grouping' *fully identical* articles


In this context and according to the REACH definition of 'article' (section 1.3), *fully identical* articles means articles on their own with

- the exact same function or use,
- the same physical form (shape, surface and design),

- and the same chemical composition.

Very small variations in the physical form and chemical composition can exist due to common differences resulting from the production process, for example between different batches or between different production sites. If these variations are very small, the articles are considered to fulfil the meaning provided above, only for the purpose of submitting information within the same SCIP notification.

A SCIP notification covering several or many *fully identical* articles can be submitted to ECHA by the same duty holder.

 The WFD requires one notification per article and not per individual unit.

#### **Example 2: large number of *fully identical* imported screws**

A company imports and places on the EU market a large number of screws (containing a Candidate List substance in a concentration above 0.1% w/w) with a defined radius under the head, nominal length, thread length, and head according to established standards.

**Figure 8: *Fully identical* articles: screws with a defined radius under the head, nominal length, thread length, and head according to established standards**



(Photo by [Eliza Diamond](#) on [Unsplash](#))

Since all screws (units) are fully identical articles on their own, according to the meaning given above, all of them can be regarded as an article and only one SCIP notification per duty holder needs to be submitted to ECHA, by providing the information according to the requirements set out in sections 2.1 and 2.3.

### **3.1.2 Criteria for 'grouping' *quasi-identical* articles**

Certain articles on their own placed on the EU market, which are fully identical in terms of their chemical composition, but cannot be regarded as *fully identical* articles, as described in the previous section, can still be allowed to be submitted in the same SCIP notification to ECHA if certain criteria are fulfilled. These articles are called in this context *quasi-identical* articles and fulfil the following criteria:

- They have the same function or use;
- They contain the same Candidate List substance(s);
- They are made of the same material or the Candidate List substance is incorporated in them by using the same mixture category in a further processing step;
- The safe use instructions are the same, which is a logical consequence of the previous criteria.

*Quasi-identical* articles meeting these criteria can be submitted in the same SCIP notification to ECHA, provided that the right elements for the (commercial) identification (chapter 2) of **each**









**subgroup of fully identical articles** (e.g. names and alphanumeric identifiers) made available or placed on the market are provided in the SCIP notification according to the requirements set out in Table 2 under section 2.1.1., including those classified as optional if necessary for any user of the SCIP database to unequivocally identify those subgroups of *fully identical* articles in the database.

### Example 2: O-rings of different width, diameter or colour

A Company XYZ places on the EU market several O-rings made of the same material containing the same Candidate List substance at the same concentration, but of different width/thickness, diameter and colour.

The information that appears in the catalogue of the Company XYZ is the following:

O-rings						
Brand: Rubber joints RJ						
Material: styrene-butadiene rubber (SBR), vulcanised						
						
Diameter:	15mm	15mm	20mm	20mm	20mm	20mm
Thickness:	2.0mm	2.0mm	3.5mm	3.5mm	5.0mm	5.0mm
Colour:	Black	Grey	Black	Grey	Black	Grey
Item No.:	15x2.0B RJ	15x2.0G RJ	20x3.5B RJ	20x3.5G RJ	20x5.0B RJ	20x5.0G RJ

In the communications to customers under REACH Article 33(1), the Company XYZ includes the following additional information:

"All O-rings identified by the Item No. 15x2.0B RJ, 15x2.0G RJ, 20x3.5B RJ, 20x3.5G RJ, 20x5.0B RJ, and 20x5.0G RJ with the specifications included in the technical sheet attached (as they appear in our catalogue) contain in their chemical composition the substance 1,2-Benzenedicarboxylic acid, di-C6-8-branched alkyl esters, C7-rich, EC No.:276-158-1, CAS No:71888-89-6, included in the Candidate List of substances of very high concern for Authorisation, since 20/06/2011, with the reason for inclusion being its classification as 'Toxic for reproduction (Article 57c)', published in accordance with Article 59(10) of the REACH Regulation on ECHA's website. This substance is present in the identified O-rings in a concentration above 0.1% w/w, more in particular with a minimum concentration of 7% w/w and a maximum concentration of 8% w/w. The relevant safe use instructions to ensure the safe use of these O-rings, as a result of the presence of the above identified Candidate List substance in their chemical composition, throughout their whole life cycle including service life and waste/recycling stage, as well as foreseeable misuse are also provided in the technical sheet attached and they are the same."

Based on this information held by Company XYZ, it is possible to conclude that the O-rings specified in the catalogue are *quasi-identical* articles, because they meet the necessary criteria as set out above:

- They have the same function or use: they are all O-rings, which can be described by the same 'article category', i.e. by the following CN/TARIC codes and descriptions. (e.g.
  - 4008290090 - Plastics and articles thereof; rubber and articles thereof > Rubber and articles thereof > Plates, sheets, strip, rods and profile shapes, of vulcanised rubber other than hard rubber > Of non-cellular rubber > Other > Other
  - 4016930090 - Plastics and articles thereof; rubber and articles thereof > Rubber

and articles thereof > Other articles of vulcanised rubber other than hard rubber  
> Other > Gaskets, washers and other seals > Other)

- They contain the same Candidate List substance(s):  
*1,2-Benzenedicarboxylic acid, di-C6-8-branched alkyl esters, C7-rich, EC No.:276-158-1, CAS No:71888-89-6*
- They are made of the same material:  
*styrene-butadiene rubber (SBR), vulcanised*
- The safe use instructions are the same:  
*'...The relevant safe use instructions to ensure the safe use of these O-rings, as a result of the presence of the above identified Candidate List substance in their chemical composition, throughout their whole life cycle including service life and waste/recycling stage, as well as foreseeable misuse are also provided in the technical sheet attached and they are the same.'*

If Company XYZ provides in the SCIP notification the 'Brand: Rubber joints RJ' under the 'Other name(s) [type and value]' requirement and the respective alphanumeric identifiers, i.e. the *Item No.*, for each subgroup of *fully identical* articles (O-rings with the same diameter, thickness and colour) as they appear in the catalogue (see table above), under 'Other article identifier(s) [type and value]' requirement as set out in Table 2 under section 2.1.1., then all O-rings identified above (from the Company XYZ catalogue) can be submitted together in a single SCIP notification by Company XYZ to ECHA.

### 3.1.3 Criteria for 'grouping' *quasi-identical* complex objects

A large number of a complex object units are usually made available on the market with the following common commercial identifiers (among others depending of the sector or supply chain actors practices), usually available on products, on labels, in catalogues or other means:

- Trade name,
- Brand,
- Model, and
- Bar code number.

For certain complex objects, such as electronic devices and vehicles a serial or identification number for each unit placed on the market is usually provided on the packaged product or label.

In many cases, the complex object units placed on the market by a company under those common commercial identifiers can be divided in different sets of units incorporating the same combinations of components and subcomponents with articles as such containing Candidate List substances (> 0.1% w/w). These complex objects, and only these are subject to the SCIP notification obligation. Units of those complex objects with possible combinations where no articles as such containing Candidate List substances are incorporated in them are not subject to the SCIP notification duty.

Certain complex objects placed on the EU market, which are termed *quasi-identical* complex objects are also allowed to be submitted in the same SCIP notification to ECHA if certain criteria are fulfilled, similarly to *quasi-identical* articles as explained in the previous section 3.1.2.

*Quasi-identical* complex objects are complex objects that fulfil the following criteria:

- The complex object (units) have the same function or use  
[i.e. the same name and 'article category' or CN/TARIC code(s) and description(s)];



- The complex object (units) incorporate the same components and subcomponents (i.e. having the same function/use following the previous criterion), and the complex object or its components and subcomponents incorporate the same articles as such, which fulfil the criteria for *quasi-identical* articles as such set out in section 3.1.2.
- The safe use instructions are the same for the complex object (units) as placed on the market, which is a logical consequence of the two criteria above.

Complex objects fulfilling these criteria - *quasi-identical* complex objects – can be submitted in the same SCIP notification to ECHA, **provided that the right elements for the identification** (e.g. names and alphanumeric identifiers) **are included** in the SCIP notification according to the requirements set out in Table 2 under section 2.1.1., including those classified as optional if necessary for any user of the SCIP database to unequivocally identify those complex objects in the database and the information in the SCIP database linked to them. In most situations, as it will be illustrated in example 3 below, the common identifiers communicated in the supply chain and available to recipients of articles and consumers as those listed above are not usually enough to meet this last criterion.

In order to fulfil all criteria set out above for *quasi-identical* articles, a specific primary article identifier needs to be provided for each set of *quasi-identical* complex objects when submitting a SCIP notification, i.e. for each set of units with a unique combination of components and subcomponents with articles as such containing Candidate List substances (> 0.1% w/w), according to the criteria above.

The 'grouping' of *quasi-identical* complex object units according to those criteria may not be possible based on the common identification of complex objects, currently used in supply chains, because complex objects that are different in terms of composition (i.e. in terms of components and subcomponents with articles as such containing Candidate List substances) may be currently placed on the market under the same (commercial) identifiers (e.g. as those listed above).

To better illustrate the applicability of the criteria to define *quasi-identical* complex objects and to show the mismatch between most common commercial identification practices of complex objects and the identification elements (names and alphanumeric identifiers) needed to be included in a single SCIP notification for 'grouping' *quasi-identical* complex objects, a hypothetical example is provided below for a "smartphone 100".

**Example 3: "Smartphone 100" to illustrate the criteria to define *quasi-identical* complex objects to be submitted in a single SCIP notification**

A Company ZYX places on the EU market 649 units of a "smartphone 100" subject to the SCIP notification duty, because all of them contain one or more Candidate List substances (>0.1% w/w) in their components or subcomponents.

The "smartphone 100" units' commercial identification on device and label of each unit and in the catalogue of the Company ZYX contains the following information:

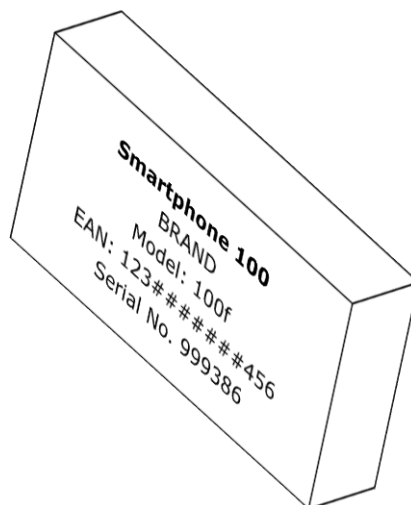
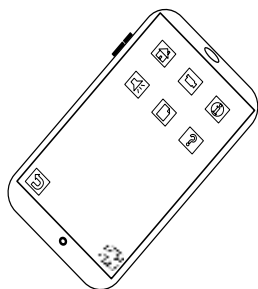
### Commercial identification of the "smartphone 100"

Smartphone 100

**Brand: BRAND**

**Model: 100f**

**Bar code number (EAN): 123#####456**



*Note: serial numbers available for the 649 units  
999350-999999*

The 'smartphone 100' units are made available or placed on the market by company ZYX with a common name, brand and bar code number, even if they contain different combinations of components and subcomponents incorporating articles as such with different Candidate List substances.

However, these different combinations are often the same for different sets of the assembled units (e.g. Set 1, Set 2, Set 3), i.e. they comprise a large number of units placed on the market with specific serial numbers or identification numbers for each unit. These numbers are also 'commercial identifiers' and are usually provided with the product unit sold:

- Set 1 of "Smartphone 100" units which fulfil the criteria for *quasi-identical* complex objects: 200 units; serial numbers 999350-999550;
- Set 2 of "Smartphone 100" units which fulfil the criteria for *quasi-identical* complex objects: 350 units; serial numbers 999550-999900;
- Set 3 of "Smartphone 100" units which fulfil the criteria for *quasi-identical* complex objects: 99 units; serial numbers 999900-999999;

Therefore, following the above grouping criteria for complex objects, each of those sets (including a potentially large number of individual units) - *quasi-identical* complex objects - could be submitted to the SCIP database with one notification by attributing a single primary article identifier (primary ID) to each set.


The table below shows that for the "smartphone 100" example there are 3 sets of possible combinations of components and subcomponents incorporating articles as such with different Candidate List substances for the "smartphone 100" comprising the number of individual units listed above, based on the information held by Company ZYX. Each of these 3 sets could be reported in a single SCIP notification, which means that only three SCIP notifications will need to be submitted to ECHA covering all 649 units placed on the market by Company ZYX. To submit the 3 required SCIP notifications to ECHA by Company ZYX, this submitter needs to set for each of those SCIP notifications a specific primary article identifier value as shown in the table below (in dark red).

Required specific identification of the "smartphone 100" sets for SCIP notifications			
Primary Article Identifier	Primary ID (Set 1) (200 units)	Primary ID (Set 2) (350 units)	Primary ID (Set 3) (99 units)
<b>Smartphone 100</b>	<b>100-1</b>	<b>100-2</b>	<b>100-3</b>
O Printed Circuit Board PCB	PCB-01	PCB-02	-
Ø Capacitor CAP	CAP-001	CAP-002	-
- Contact CO	CO-0001 ¶ SVHC 1	CO-0001 ¶ SVHC 1	-
- Casing CA	CA-0002 ¶ SVHC 2	-	-
O Battery BAT	BAT-03 ¶ SVHC 3	-	BAT-03 ¶ SVHC 3

SVHC = Substance of very high concern included in the Candidate List (Candidate List substance)

**Short description:** Each "smartphone 100" device incorporates two components, a printed circuit board PCB and a battery BAT. The battery BAT is regarded as an article under REACH, if the chemical composition of concern is the electrolyte. The printed circuit board PCB is a complex object incorporating a capacitor CAP as a relevant component (for SCIP). The capacitor CAP is a complex object with two relevant components (for SCIP), the contact CO and the Casing CA. The battery BAT-03 is only relevant for the 200 units within Set 1, with a primary article identifier value (Primary ID 100-1) and for the 99 units within Set 3, with Primary ID 100-3, because the battery BAT-03 contains a Candidate List substance, SVHC 3 in the electrolyte. The printed circuit board PCB-01 is only relevant for the 200 units within Set 1, with Primary ID 100-1, because it incorporates the capacitor CAP-001, which incorporates the contact CO-0001 with Candidate List substance SVHC 1, and incorporates the casing CA-0002 with Candidate List substance SVHC 2. The printed circuit board PCB-02 is only relevant for the 350 units within Set 2, with Primary ID 100-2, because it incorporates the capacitor CAP-002, which incorporates the contact CO-0001 with Candidate List substance SVHC 1.

The illustrated example for 'grouping' of quasi-identical complex object units for the "smartphone 100" devices shows that most likely there is currently a mismatch between the common identification of devices made available or communicated to recipients (of those devices in the supply chain) and to consumers, when making them available or placing them on the market, and the necessary identification based on common data necessary to be submitted in SCIP notifications in terms of composition (i.e. in terms of components and subcomponents with articles as such containing Candidate List substances).

 The submission of the same data multiple times to the SCIP database for complex object units which fulfil the criteria of *quasi-identical* complex object, as listed above, must be avoided. The WFD requires one notification per article and not per unit. Therefore, if a complex object has the same composition, in terms of components and subcomponents with the same articles as such containing the same Candidate List substances, only one SCIP notification must be submitted for all units with that same composition, according to the criteria set out above for *quasi-identical* complex objects, provided that all the necessary identification requirements are included (e.g. primary article identifier and potentially others).

To allow users of the SCIP database (e.g. recipients and consumers) to identify which set of data (identified by the primary article identifier in the SCIP database) is linked to the specific complex object (product unit) they wish to buy, it is necessary to communicate or make available to actors in the supply chain and consumers the necessary identification of the complex object (i.e. name(s) and (alpha)numeric identifiers) for which a specific notification has been submitted to ECHA. For example, company ZYX (in example 3 above) when placing or making available the "smartphone 100" devices on the market needs to include additional identifiers (e.g. the primary

article identifier for each set of units covered by the same SCIP notification) or adapt the identifiers communicated in the supply chain and to consumers; i.e. identifying all 'Smartphone 100' units under the same brand, model and bar code number (EAN) does not seem sufficient for a SCIP database user to identify which set of data in a SCIP notification (identified by the primary article identifier in the SCIP database) is linked to the set of product units they wish to acquire, market or purchase.

**Recommendation concerning the identification available in the supply chain and to consumers for *quasi-identical* complex objects (several or many units) submitted in the same SCIP notification:**

Incorporating progressively the primary article identifier or other specific identifier included in the SCIP notification as part of the identification of *quasi-identical* complex objects when making them available or placing them on the market, in order to be readily available to actors in the supply chain and consumers when consulting the SCIP database.

It could for instance require companies to progressively adapt in a suitable way the identification of those complex objects (e.g. the name(s) or (alpha)numeric identifiers), taking into account the submitted SCIP data, when making them available or placed them on the EU market.

This recommendation permits the identification, in the SCIP database, of the complex object incorporating the article containing the Candidate List substance to which the safe use information is linked to. It ensures that all actors in the supply chain and consumers take, at their stage, those risk management measures which follow from the presence of Candidate List substances in articles in order to guarantee their completely safe use. The identification of the data linked to a specific product placed on the market potentially complemented with other voluntary actions may also enable certain waste operators (e.g. disassemblers and actors dedicated to preparing for re-use of the whole product or certain functioning components) to identify and take the effective treatment option concerning the waste containing Candidate List substances, once the products enter in the waste stage.

This recommendation also allows the achievement of one of the main aims of the SCIP database which is allowing informed purchase choices for which a precondition is for the user of the database to know a specific identifier that enables a search in the SCIP database for a specific product and to conclude on the presence or non-presence of a Candidate List substance in the articles incorporated in that product (*quasi-identical* complex object).

### **3.1.4 ECHA's recommended approaches: 'grouping' *fully* identical articles, *quasi-identical* articles and *quasi-identical* complex objects in a SCIP notification**

ECHA **only recommends** the 'grouping' of *fully* identical articles (section 3.1.1), *quasi-identical* articles (section 3.1.2) and *quasi-identical* complex objects (section 3.1.3) in a single SCIP notification based on the criteria described above. This allows a significant reduction in the number of notifications to be made (by e.g. a factor between 10-100) and thus reduces the impact on industry. It also ensures more meaningful data will be included in the SCIP database for consumers and waste operators as reporting at too granular a level (e.g. single product unit level/serial number level) may lead to a "data dump" approach as explained below.



ECHA recognises that there is a residual risk that even with the recommendations described in this document for 'grouping', the data volumes to be stored and processed by ECHA may be so voluminous that it leads to processing delays.

The criteria set out in the previous sections for *fully* identical articles (section 3.1.1), *quasi-identical* articles (section 3.1.2) and *quasi-identical* complex objects (section 3.1.3) in single SCIP notifications can be considered in line with a strict reading of the legal text and the definition of "article", as well as with the reporting duties under Article 33 REACH and the WFD, provided that the right elements for the identification of each article or complex object (e.g. names and alphanumeric identifiers) are included in the notifications, by using a suitable combination of names and alphanumeric identifiers in the SCIP format. This way all articles would be identified

and notified, but can be grouped in one notification.

Apart from exceptional cases for highly customised products such as airplanes, laboratory equipment for research, certain health care equipment and satellites, reporting at “single product unit” or serial number level should be avoided for the following reasons:

- It would lead to an enormous amount of multiplication of the same data (“data dump”) where users of the database could not find their way around anymore as it would be difficult to find the right data at the right level of granularity (e.g. a search for “Smartphone 100” would return tens or hundreds of thousand results instead of 10-100 possible variations);
- The approach of copying all existing data without adaptations into SCIP may seem ‘easy’ for certain sectors which have already a large amount of data available, but will certainly not be easy for most other sectors which do not have this readily available. And without adapting the data descriptions, the data will not be understandable to external users. Instead the company internal data should be adapted to make it understandable to consumers and waste operators;
- Commercially sensitive information such as number of units sold in the EU market could potentially be retrieved from the dissemination portal if reported at this level of detail;
- It would also create an unmanageable data volume for the SCIP database and the processing times for rendering search results and their volume (e.g. a search for a certain smartphone model could return one hundred thousand or more identical results) risk undermining the goals of the database.



For these reasons, the submission of the same data multiple times to the SCIP database for fully identical articles (section 3.1.1), quasi-identical articles (section 3.1.2) and quasi-identical complex objects (section 3.1.3) through unnecessary SCIP notifications must be avoided. The WFD requires one notification per article and not per unit. Therefore, concerning complex object units with the same composition, in terms of components and subcomponents with the same articles as such containing the same Candidate List substances, only one SCIP notification must be submitted for all those units according to the criteria set in section 3.1.3 for *quasi-identical* complex objects and all the necessary identification requirements are included (e.g. primary article identifier and potentially others). If deemed necessary, ECHA may consider discouraging voluminous submissions with the same data, which can be prevented by using the ‘grouping’ criteria set out in sections 3.1.1, 3.1.2 and 3.1.3, by technical means.

### 3.1.5 Responsibilities of Member States: transposition of WFD Article 9(1)(i) and enforcement

The Article 9(1)(i) of the WFD extends the REACH Article 33 duties of suppliers of articles to communicate, under certain conditions, information about the presence of Candidate List substances in their articles down the supply chain and to consumers (upon request), by requiring them to submit that information also to ECHA.

The criteria set out in sections 3.1.1, 3.1.2 and 3.1.3, as well as the recommendations under section 3.1.4 are set by ECHA within the interpretation of the task provided to it by Article 9(2) of the WFD.

These obligations of the Directive need to be transposed into the national law of the EU Member States, the enforcement of which is the responsibility of those Member States. It is also up to the Member States to provide advice or recommendations to companies, and enforce the SCIP notification obligation according to their national law. Therefore, it is within the responsibility of each individual EU Member State to allow (or not) ‘grouping’ according to more far-reaching ‘grouping’ approaches. The most suitable of those approaches is the ‘representative article approach’ as described and illustrated in Appendix 2. Such approaches may be allowed to be used by duty holders in each individual EU Member State in exceptional and justified cases such as:

- for specific extremely complex and customised products (e.g. airplanes, laboratory

- equipment for research, certain health care equipment and satellites);
- for certain highly complex objects (e.g. certain electronic devices, motor vehicles), only temporarily, at a company's own risk, in particular if they supply these objects in different Member States, while progressively adapting their IT tracking tools and reporting methods to the extent possible by aligning them with the criteria for grouping *quasi-identical* complex objects.

Those approaches, including the 'representative article approach' described in Appendix 2, raise questions regarding compliance in line with a strict reading of the legal text and the definition of "article" under REACH, as well as with the reporting duties under REACH Article 33 and WFD Articles 9(1)(i) and 9(2). They also impact the usability of the data by the target audiences of the SCIP database, namely by waste operators and consumers. For these reasons, the 'representative article approach' or other more far-reaching 'grouping' approaches are not recommended by ECHA.

### 3.2 How many layers of components and subcomponents in a complex object have to be reported in a SCIP notification ('hierarchy')?

The question of how many layers of components and subcomponents of a complex object have to be included in a SCIP notification in order to allow the identification and 'location' of the article containing a Candidate List substance ('hierarchy') is addressed below.

It is strongly recommended, based on practical considerations, to include the number of layers that reflect the incorporation of the articles in subcomponents, as well as the incorporation of the subcomponents and components in that complex object at each assembling stage. This means, including in the SCIP notifications the necessary layers by following the components placed on the market and incorporated in complex objects at each assembling stage. This approach is represented in Figure 9, by using the example of a (hypothetical) bicycle as shown in Figure 3. However, this recommendation does not necessarily mean that the duty holder should not assess on a case-by-case basis the best approach to include the number of layers in a SCIP notification to allow the identification and 'location' of the article containing a Candidate List substance within a complex object by any user of the SCIP database, in particular by waste operators and consumers.

By following the components placed on the market and incorporated in complex objects at each assembling stage, it is possible to include the information for each component in the SCIP database by using the name ('article name' requirement in Table 2 under section 2.1.1) and the article category - CN/TARIC code and description ('article category' requirement in Table 2 under section 2.1.1) - for each component assembled at each particular stage.

It is recommended that each supplier following each assembling stage communicates this information to customers and so on. Such information facilitates the preparation and submission of SCIP notifications by their customers.

ECHA developed technical solutions (i.e. the Simplified SCIP Notification (SSN) and 'Referencing' in a SCIP notification) that can be used on a voluntary basis to make it possible for suppliers of articles (e.g. distributors, 'assemblers') to refer to data already submitted to ECHA by other duty holders.<sup>46</sup> These tools facilitate the submission of SCIP notifications to ECHA, while keeping consistency in the information to be submitted, by avoiding multiple reporting of the same data and thereby limiting unnecessary administrative burden for duty holders. 'Referencing' in a SCIP notification makes it possible for an assembler to refer to information on the complex object components (either articles as such or complex objects) already submitted to ECHA by an upstream supplier or by the duty holder itself, in the SCIP notification of its assembled complex object. Therefore, it can support greatly this approach for setting the 'hierarchy' throughout the

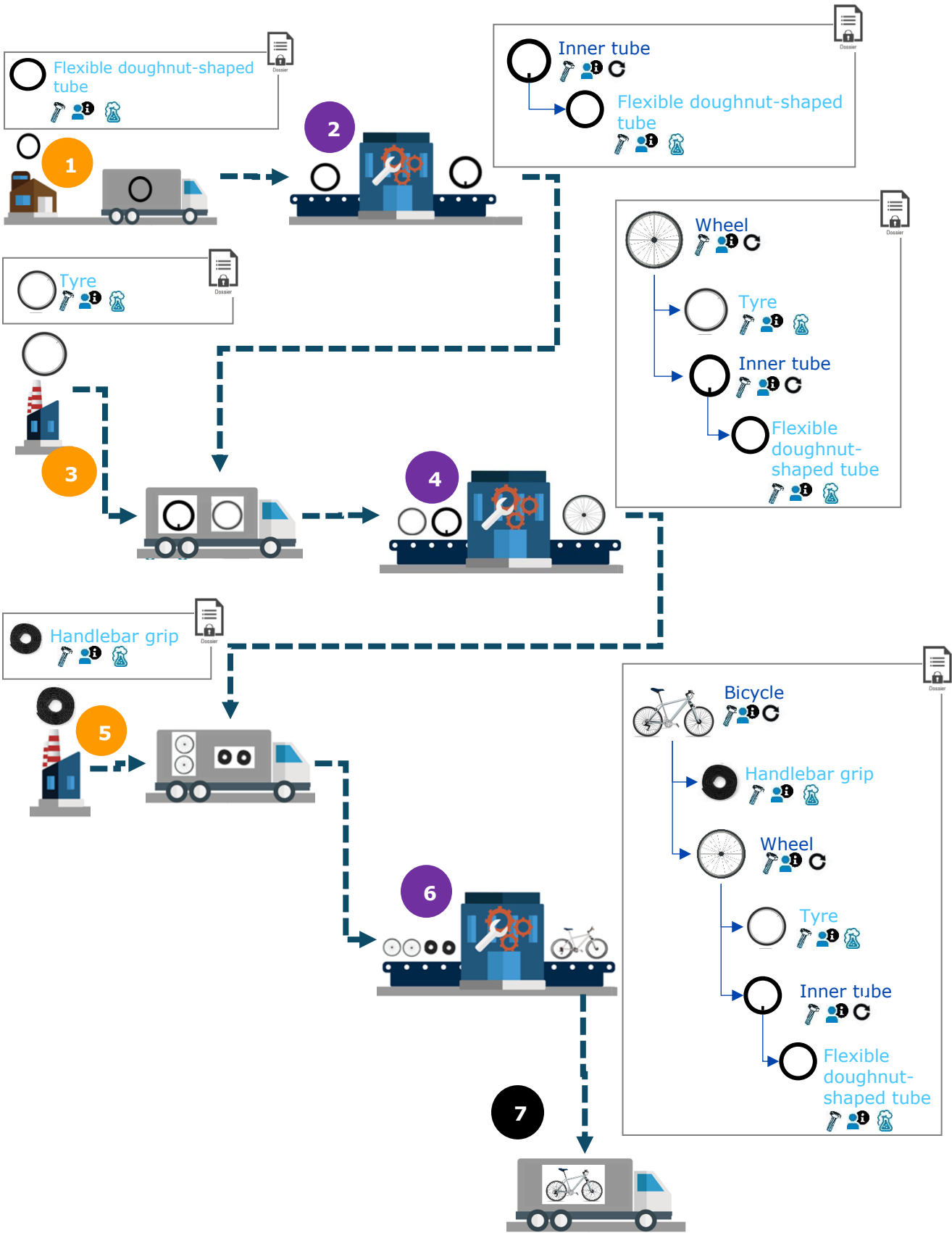
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<sup>46</sup> Further information about the simplified SCIP notification (SSN) and 'Referencing' in a SCIP notification is available on the ECHA website ([SCIP webpage](#)).



supply chain.

**Figure 9: Representation of the recommended approach for setting the 'hierarchy' in a SCIP notification (example of the bicycle shown in Figure 3)**





## Appendix 1. Categories of materials in SCIP

### A1-1. Introduction

This Appendix provides a list of categories of materials to be used when submitting SCIP notifications to the SCIP database for reporting on the material an article is made of according to the 'material category' requirement set out in Table 6 under section 2.3.1., as included in the SCIP format.

The revised Waste Framework Directive [2008/98/EC](#) (WFD) gives ECHA, under Art. 9(2) the task of setting up a database of articles that contain Candidate List substances ([SCIP database](#)) and to make available this information to waste treatment operators and consumers.

The Commission's "*Non-paper on the implementation of articles 9(1)(i) and 9(2) of the revised Waste Framework Directive 2008/98/EC*" (distributed to the CARACAL and Waste Expert Group in June 2019, ref. Ares(2019)3936110)) states that "information relevant to the identification of the article" and where the "name, concentration range and location of the SVHC" is not sufficient, "other information on the safe use of the article, in particular available information that is relevant to ensure proper management of the article as waste" must be communicated to ECHA by suppliers of articles covered by the obligation set out in the WFD Art. 9(1)(i), hereafter called duty holders.

From the definition of article under REACH (Art. 3(3)), articles can be differentiated among themselves based on the function (and uses), chemical composition and physical form (shape, surface or design). If articles have the same function and uses, besides other characteristics related with the shape, information on the material they are made of (partial information on chemical composition) is important, if not essential, to identify a particular article at the stage of making a purchase choice by downstream producers and assemblers, end users (professional and industrial) and consumers. For example, office desk tables' tops have the same function and uses and can only be differentiated by the material they are made of (e.g. PVC plastic, borosilicate glass, wood) and other characteristics such as dimensions. When articles become waste, they are frequently separated or sorted into material based waste streams by end users and consumers, and the waste is managed and treated within those streams by waste operators. The identification of the material an article is made of allows waste operators to identify material based waste streams impacted by articles containing Candidate List substances. Therefore, such information is relevant for waste operators, professional and industrial end users, and consumers.

For the establishment of the SCIP database, information on the material the article is made of is incorporated as a (alternative) mandatory requirement (Table 6 under section 2.3.1), because it should be information available to duty holders and is considered necessary to identify and differentiate articles and to ensure proper management of articles once they become waste. This type of information is usually part of the technical and quality requirements set out in standards for products. It is available to EU producers of articles, because they are the ones that choose the raw materials for the production of their articles. It should also be available to EU importers of articles and to downstream suppliers of articles. Frequently, this information is already made available to supply chain actors and consumers in labels and catalogues.

There are product specific and waste legislations which use categories for materials (e.g. food contact materials, [list of waste](#) under the WFD, Directive 94/62/EC on packaging and packaging waste), but they are not harmonised. In the context of REACH, the Chapter R.12: Use description of the [Guidance on Information Requirements and Chemical Safety Assessment](#) includes material-based 'Article Categories' (ACs) in the use descriptor system for describing the uses of chemical substances.

The next section of this Appendix focuses on the overarching material categories and respective subcategories of the list of categories of materials to be used when submitting SCIP notifications to the SCIP database ('material category' requirement set out in Table 6 under section 2.3.1.).

The section A1-2 focuses on the additional material characteristic(s) requirement as set out in the same Table 6 under section 2.3.1.

Mixtures as such are excluded from the scope of the SCIP database. However, as explained in section 2.3.1.3, a Candidate List substance may be incorporated in article(s) by using a mixture containing that substance in a further processing step of that article or when joining or assembling two or more articles in a complex object. In those cases, duty holders should identify the "mixture category" from the European product categorisation system ([EuPCS](#)) that led to the incorporation of the Candidate List substance in the reported article(s). This is the alternative mandatory requirement to the "material category" (Table 6 under section 2.3.1). Detailed information is available on the [Poison Centres website](#) about the EuPCS, therefore the SCIP "Mixture Category" requirement is excluded from the scope of this Appendix.

## A1-2. Overarching categories of materials and subcategories

There are 11 overarching material categories listed in Table A1-1 below. Their subcategories are listed in complementary tables in the "Lists of categories of materials and additional material characteristics included in the SCIP format" accessed through the link provided in section A1-4. They have been designed to identify articles based on the type of material they are made of (matrix) and to support proper management of articles once they become waste. The correspondence between these proposed categories and the ACs in the ECHA's R12 Guidance and the types of waste in the List of Waste (Decision 2014/955/EU) are also shown in table 1.

Table A1-1. Overarching material categories

Category	Correspondence to ACs in <a href="#">ECHA's R12 Guidance</a>	Correspondence with codes on the <a href="#">List of Waste</a> (e.g.)
1. Ceramics	AC4	0802, 1012, 1701
2. Glass	AC4	1011, 1501, 1601, 1702, 1912, 2001
3. Leather and raw hides	AC6	0401, 200111
4. Metals	AC7	0201, 0603, 0604, 1003, 1004, 1005, 1006, 1007, 1008, 1101, 1102, 1201, 1501, 1601, 1603, 1608, 1611, 1704, 1910, 1912, 2001
5. Paper and board	AC8	0303, 1501, 1901, 1912, 2001
6. Plastics (and polymers)	AC13	0201, 0702, 1201, 1501, 1601, 1702, 1912, 2001
7. Rubbers and elastomers	AC10	0702, 1912
8. Stone, plaster and cement	AC4	0104, 1012, 1013, 1705, 1912, 2001
9. Textile fibres and other fibres	(AC5)	0402, 0702, 1501, 1912, 2001
10. Wood and cork	AC11	0301, 0302, 0704, 1501, 1702, 1912, 2001
11. Other:	AC0	

In the submissions to the SCIP database, the minimum information to be reported for a material an article is made of is at the level of the overarching material categories listed in the table above and the subsequent subcategories, i.e. levels 1 and 2. Further specification of the material according to subcategories of level 3 is only provided on a voluntary basis, if available to the submitter.

Concerning composite materials, further information is provided in the "Lists of categories of materials and additional material characteristics included in the SCIP format" accessed through the link provided in section A1-4.

### **A1-3. Additional material characteristics concerning the material an article is made of**

In addition to the identification of the material category/subcategory an article is made of, the duty holder may provide additional information termed 'additional material characteristics' as set out in Table 6 under section 2.3.1. The list of these additional material characteristics as included in the SCIP format can be accessed through the link provided in section A1-4.

### **A1-4. Lists of categories of materials and additional material characteristics included in the SCIP format**

The lists of categories of materials and additional material characteristics included in the SCIP format, as well as examples are available at:

[https://echa.europa.eu/documents/10162/28213971/material\\_categories\\_for\\_the\\_scip\\_database\\_en.pdf/47142a6a-2634-52ce-ced0-49670928c3c2](https://echa.europa.eu/documents/10162/28213971/material_categories_for_the_scip_database_en.pdf/47142a6a-2634-52ce-ced0-49670928c3c2)

## Appendix 2. Representative article approach for 'grouping' extremely complex objects

The flexibility of the SCIP format, which was developed to accommodate reporting by a large variety of industry sectors, allows more far-reaching 'grouping' approaches to be applied, which could in theory more drastically reduce the notification volumes. Among these possible far-reaching 'grouping' approaches, ECHA found that the 'representative article approach' is the most suitable. However, it is not recommended by ECHA (see section 3.1.5).

### Representative article approach

In this approach articles in complex objects with different Candidate List substances in their composition are reported in the SCIP notification under a generic identification for those complex objects. The components and sub-components are reported in a SCIP notification under a single name and primary identifier. For example, batteries are incorporated in a particular electronic device by the assembler; If a subset of those batteries from one supplier contain Candidate List substance 1, and another subset of those batteries, from another supplier, contain Candidate List substance 2, the assembler could report in the SCIP notification the two subsets of batteries under one single battery identification (one name and primary identifier and thus one notification), regardless whether the specific battery used belongs to one subset or another, as shown below:

- Electronic device EDZ (primary identifier 110)
  - Battery BAT-H (primary identifier BAT-H020)
    - Battery BATZ1 (primary identifier BAT001)
      - Candidate List substance 1
    - Battery BATW2 (primary identifier BAT002)
      - Candidate List substance 2

In any case, besides a notification by the assembler of the electronic device, also the producers of the batteries in the example above will still have to make two notifications for the different battery types, i.e. for each battery they are supplying to the electronic device assembler.

Benefits and disadvantages of this approach:

- It reduces drastically the number of notifications to be made by industry. [e.g. vis-a-vis the 'smartphone 100' in example 3 under section 3.1.3, the company would need to submit one notification for "Smartphone 100" vs. one for every possible combination of different components containing SVHC (one for "Smartphone 100-1", one for the "Smartphone 100-2", one for "Smartphone 100-3")].
- This approach requires industry to create a hypothetical complex object (in the example above: 'Battery BAT-H (primary identifier BAT-H020)'). The information concerning the possible combinations of components or subcomponents, e.g. from multiple suppliers or multiple sources, is linked to this ('parent') hypothetical complex object as components (in the example above: BATZ1 and BATW2 with different Candidate List substances from different suppliers are linked as components of battery BAT-H). Therefore, this approach compared to other more far-reaching approaches could work as an incentive to adapt the data and improve its quality regarding the components and subcomponents of complex objects. It could have a lower risk of containing meaningless data for the users of the database, in particular regarding the identification of components, subcomponents and articles therein.
- As compared to other more far-reaching 'grouping' approaches, this approach allows 'Referencing'<sup>46</sup> as an option to refer to data already submitted to the SCIP database by the upstream suppliers (in the example above: the suppliers of batteries BATZ1 and BATW2).
- However, it is clear that such solution also carries risks that may even undermine the

objectives of the database: e.g. waste operators and consumers will only know that an article or product “may contain” a Candidate List substance, but will not be 100% sure that the model in their hands does or does not contain a Candidate List substance. For several waste operator sectors this level of information may be sufficient, but probably not for dismantlers and waste operators dedicated to the preparation for re-use, who would need information on specific articles, not hypothetical “representative” articles. It may also weaken the change objective of the legislator to put pressure on supply chains to substitute or track more precisely the presence of Candidate List substances in articles in the spirit of safety by design, even when applying multi-sourcing.

- In addition, it is questionable if such a solution is still in line with the legal text which requires reporting at “article” level which would call for more exact information on which Candidate List substance containing article(s) is included in the complex object that is notified.

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