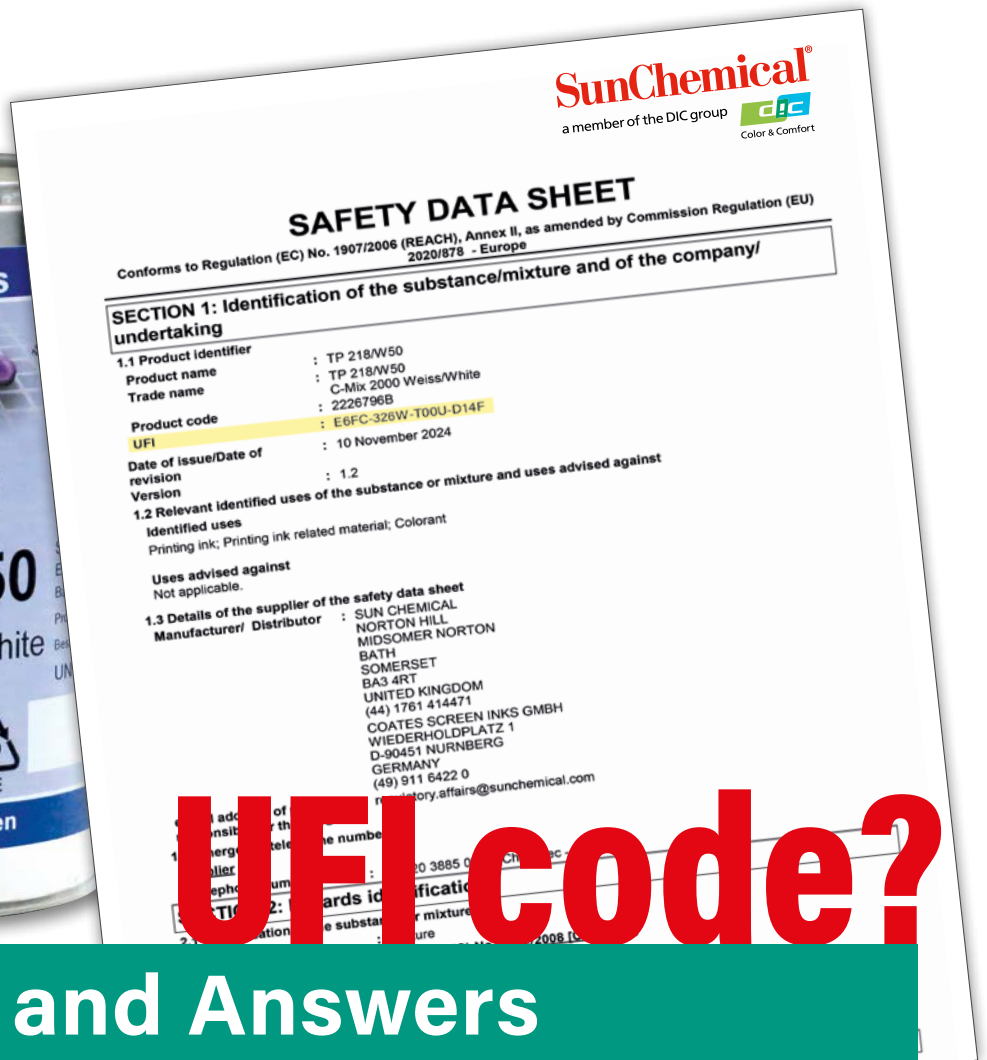




Tilman Goerttler,
Environment, Health,
Product Safety



Questions and Answers

UFI code: What is that?

The UFI code is not the “little brother” of the IBAN, but a 16-digit code, consisting of numbers and letters: UFI: xxxx-xxxx-xxxx-xxx

UFI is the “unique formula identifier”, in other words distinct formulation identifier.

Example for TP 218/W50:

UFI: E6FC-326W-T00U-D14F

Which products must be marked with the UFI code?

All mixtures that are classified as hazardous due to their effects on health or physical effects must have a UFI code. Consequently, this also applies to printing inks, auxiliary agents and additives.

Where can I find the UFI code?

Since 2021, the UFI code has already been on the labels of various consumer products, such as e.g. cleaning agents. Since January 2024, the UFI code must also be indicated on products manufactured for industrial use. For these products, instead of on the product label, the UFI code may be shown

on the safety data sheet.

What is the legal background and what is the reason for the UFI code?

According to CLP Regulation (EC) 1272/2008 Annex VIII "Harmonised information for emergency health care and preventive measures", information on hazardous mixtures must be forwarded to the national poison centres in the European Union. This comprehensive (formulation) information is much more detailed than the information in the safety data sheets. Using these data the national poison centres are able to provide quick and well-founded information in the event of poisoning.

Process of declaration?

Since November 2023, Sun Chemical has been forwarding all necessary data to the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA). ECHA forwards these data to the national poison control centres. The process works electronically by updating safety data sheets for printing inks and auxiliaries. The country of the recipient of a printing ink determines the language in which the initial notification is made.

When printing inks are then sent to another country within the European Union, other languages can be added on request. The UFI code is the visible sign that a report has been made to ECHA.

What information does this UFI code contain?

In addition to confidential information, which can only be seen by the poison centres, the code also contains public information. For example, a formulation number as well as a number characterising the reporting company (VAT identification number or an anonymous company key number). The UFI codes of

Coates Screen Inks products refer to an anonymous company key number.

Do UFI codes of products have to be passed on in the supply chain to the end customer?

Yes.

Does the UFI code also have to be declared for deliveries outside the European Union?

No. This is a European legislation that does not apply outside the European Union.

The transitional period for obligation to report this information to the poison information centres in accordance with CLP Regulation Annex VIII ends on 31.12.2024.

Will it still be possible to sell products without a UFI code from 01.01.2025?

Yes, as long as these products are already on the market. Newly produced products, however, must have a UFI code, that means they must be registered with ECHA or the National Poison Centres.

You are a distributor making your own mixtures using printing inks of Coates Screen Inks providing safety data sheets (of your mixtures) upon customer request. What UFI code do your mixtures have?

First possibility:

You create your own UFI code of your mixture and notify ECHA or the poison control centre yourself.

Second possibility:

You declare the individual components of your colour mixture with the UFI code, product name and quantity proportion of the mixing component ("Mixture in Mixture").

Example: TP 300 mixture XY

UFI: E373-X01G-ROOD-YQCS	TP 300/W50	52-57 %
UFI: CM8U-E2M4-ROOX-OR9P	TP 300/Y50	33-38 %
UFI: H6RD-HOAW-FOOA-H16H	TP 300/N50	13-16 %

We recommend that you include this information in the safety data sheet of your ink mixture in section 1. Instead of exact percentages, you may use the ranges of concentration:

Table 1 Concentration ranges of hazardous components that are of particular importance for emergency health care (substances or MIM)	
Concentration range of the hazardous component contained in the mixture (%)	Maximum width of the concentration range to be used in the notification
≥ 25 - < 100	5 % (percent)
≥ 10 - < 25	3 % (percent)
≥ 1 - < 10	1 % (percent)
≥ 0,1 - < 1	0,3 % (percent)
≥ 0 - < 0,1	0,1 % (percent)