



What are TSCA Import Certifications and how do I complete one?

When researchers order a chemical from a supplier outside of the United States, the courier (Federal Express or other courier) may request certification that the chemical is in compliance with the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA). The certification statements are typically facilitated by a form provided by the courier. An example is provided below.

TSCA gives the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) authority to issue regulations designed to gather health/safety and exposure information on, require testing of, and control exposure to individual chemical substances, chemical mixtures, and articles. This may apply to new chemical substances or existing chemical substances for which new uses are being pursued. All manufacturers of chemical substances and mixtures in the United States must comply with the specific requirements of TSCA before the substances can be distributed for research or consumer use.

Similarly, importers (such as researchers) of chemical substances, mixtures or articles are also subject to TSCA and, generally, must meet the same requirements under TSCA as a chemical manufacturer. When Virginia Tech researchers/employees are importers on record of chemical substances or mixtures, they (as the importer) must also demonstrate compliance with TSCA.

Any imported chemical substance, mixture, or article containing a chemical substance or mixture may be refused entry into the customs territory of the United States if it fails to comply with any rule in effect under TSCA or is offered for entry in violation of TSCA.

To demonstrate compliance, Virginia Tech researchers (importers) must certify on the provided forms that the chemical substance(s) or mixture(s) either complies with TSCA or is not subject to TSCA:

(+) Positive Certification Statement: Comply with TSCA

“I certify that all chemical substances in this shipment comply with all applicable rules or orders under TSCA and that I am not offering a chemical substance for entry in violation of TSCA or any applicable rule or order under TSCA.”

(-) Negative Certification Statement: Are not subject to TSCA

“I certify that all chemical substances in this shipment are not subject to TSCA.”

For any questions regarding whether a chemical substance or mixture is subject to TSCA compliance, the following resources are provided:

- Call the EPA TSCA Assistance Office at (202) 554-1404 and provide the name of the chemical substance of interest.
- Call the Virginia Tech University Chemical Hygiene Officer at (540) 231-3427
- [Compliance Guide For the Chemical Import Requirements of the Toxic Substances Control Act](#)
- [TSCA Section 13 Import Compliance Checklist](#)