

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

September 12, 2013



**Flexible Vinyl Alliance**

**Contact:**

Kevin Ott

Executive Director

Flexible Vinyl Alliance

[KOtt@FlexVinylAlliance.com](mailto:KOtt@FlexVinylAlliance.com)

[www.flexvinylalliance.com](http://www.flexvinylalliance.com)

## **FVA Commends EPA Decision to Withdraw Draft Rules on Chemicals** *Alliance Points Out Proposed Rule's Impact on Small Business*

WASHINGTON, D.C. – The [Flexible Vinyl Alliance](http://www.flexvinylalliance.com) (FVA), an affiliate of the [Society of Chemical Manufacturers and Affiliates](http://www.societyofchemicalmanufacturers.com), commends the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for withdrawing a proposed rule under the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) that would have negatively impacted the \$20 billion flexible vinyl industry by listing eight phthalates, some used extensively in product manufacture, as "chemicals of concern."

FVA, along with several plastics and vinyl industry peer groups, was pro-active in generating industry input on the rulemaking proposal. FVA presented the concerns of small business to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) where the proposed rule had been under review since August 2010.

"The proposal floated by EPA in 2010 to list common plasticizers as 'chemicals of concern' was unnecessary, as phthalates have been in wide use for 50 years. They have been studied extensively and are widely and safely deployed in hundreds of common consumer products, many of them made by U.S. manufacturers," said Kevin Ott, Executive Director of the Flexible Vinyl Alliance.

EPA previously announced it had "developed a Work Plan of more than 80 chemicals for risk assessment and risk reduction, as warranted, instead of utilizing the TSCA Section 5(b)(4) authority to simply list chemicals that may pose a concern." Several of these Work Plan risk assessments are under way already.

As EPA moves forward with its revised chemical initiatives, "FVA will continue to insist on sound science approaches to risk assessments as they relate to 'chemicals of commerce' such as phthalate plasticizers, which are essential to the manufacture of flexible vinyl products in the military, medical, roofing, flooring, building, packaging and wire and cable industries," said Ott.

**About FVA**

*The Flexible Vinyl Alliance (FVA) was launched in the fall of 2009 as an independent, dedicated, proactive, integrated and informal advocacy network to rapidly respond at both the state and local levels to de-selection threats which affect the continued business interests of the flexible vinyl industry. For more information, visit [www.flexvinylalliance.com](http://www.flexvinylalliance.com).*