

FLEXIBLE VINYL MATTERS

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INFORM, ADVOCATE, ACT
WWW.FLEXVINYLALLIANCE.COM

The Flexible Vinyl Alliance (FVA) is a coalition of over 90 companies representing the full value chain of the flexible vinyl industry from resin supply to compounding, manufacturing and retail. The FVA is further affiliated with 900 additional businesses through its allied trade relationships.

FVA FILES COMMENTS ON CPSC PROPOSAL TO REGULATE PHTHALATES

Following a successful appeal for an extension of the comment period until April 15th, the FVA and allied industry groups filed comments to the Consumer Products Safety Commission (CPSC) on a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking addressing the continued use of phthalates in children's products. As noted in FVA's comments, "this Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPR) will unfortunately lead manufacturers of 'children's products' to face further uncertainty in attempting to revise product formations (upping their manufacturing costs), be subject now to increased product liability concerns, and have one more regulatory compliance burden placed on their shoulders as

manufacturers, small and large of such consumer goods suitable for children."

The 93 submitted comments can be seen at:

<http://www.regulations.gov/#!documentDetail;D=CPSC-2014-0033-0075>

FVA members will be kept apprised of the publication of the Final Rulemaking, which may take several months to issue based on the substantial number of comments received by CPSC on this matter and the questionable methodologies employed by CPSC to reach a decision that seeks to further regulate common plasticizers.



In The News

Vinyl Saves Lives at NPE

The plastics/vinyl industry raised in excess of \$7,000 for the American Red Cross Ebola Relief Campaign during the NPE 2015 show last month.

During the NPE event, the combined efforts of the vinyl trade groups along with a dozen corporate sponsors, designed and displayed the Vinyl Saves Lives exhibit, featuring vinyl products used in medical and health care settings inclusive of patient isolation tents, biohazard suits, blood bags, breathing masks, blood pressure cuffs and dialysis equipment. The display also included vinyl flooring and wall coverings used in typical hospital rooms.



Pictured: Bill Cardeaux, SPI; Sylvia Bova, American Red Cross; Kevin Ott, FVA.

The success of fundraising efforts was significant. The audience for the exhibit and campaign is estimated at more than 300,000 people in and outside of the plastics industry.

The American Red Cross dedicated FVA Donation Site is still live. Please go to <http://www.redcross.org/cm/flexiblevinylalliance-pub> to pledge your personal or corporate donation.

ADVOCACY IN ACTION

Proposition 65 Insurance Product Announced

Navigating California's Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986—better known as Proposition 65—is becoming an increasingly difficult endeavor for California-based companies, as well as companies doing business in the State of California.

Because Proposition 65 allows for private causes of action and the recovery of attorneys' fees, there has been a steady stream of claims alleging Proposition 65 violations, particularly now that common vinyl plasticizers such as DINP have been "listed."

What companies may not realize is that they will soon have the option to purchase insurance to cover their costs of defending against and responding to "bounty hunter" suits. In a major industry announcement, SPI, the plastics industry trade association, will offer a "Prop 65 Protection Program" developed to inform, aid and protect retail and industry companies. Organizations throughout the plastics production and retail sales train that are likely to be served with expensive California Proposition Notice of Violation may request more information on the new insurance product by contacting SPI:

<http://www.plasticsindustry.org/applications/forms-bd/formDisplay.cfm?FormID=6969>

Prop 65 California Chamber Letter on Labeling

FVA signed off on a coalition letter in early April prepared by the California Chamber of Commerce. The letter points out the deep flaws in the latest attempt by the State of California to "help" businesses by clarifying warning labeling requirements. As stated in the letter, the enhanced warning label proposal for 12 chemicals, inclusive of phthalates, would open up "new frontiers" of "bad warning" enforcement putting businesses at risk for more lawsuits.

The 73-page comment letter from the California Chamber and coalition includes more than 170 California-based and national organizations and businesses of varying sizes that, collectively, represent nearly every major business sector on which the ill-

advised proposal would have an impact. The California Chamber of Commerce should be applauded for their work on this on industry's behalf.

More information is available at:

<http://www.calchamber.com/headlines/pages/04092015-proposed-changes-to-prop-65-warning-rules-will-increase-costs-litigation.aspx>



Connect with FVA on LinkedIn
and on the FVA Website

www.flexvinylalliance.com
www.linkedin.com

Important Dates



Vinyl Institute Fly-In
June 2 - 3, 2015
Washington, DC
www.vinylinfo.org

SPI Flexible Vinyl Products Division 26th Annual Compounders Conference

July 20 - 22, 2015
Old Town Alexandria, VA
<http://www.plasticsindustry.org/FVPC/events/EventDetail.cfm?EventID=58796>



SPE VinylTec 2015
October 13 - 15, 2015
Akron, OH
www.4spe.org



Membership

For more information
and to join:

The Flexible Vinyl Alliance is an advocacy network with over 200 registered and active members that have flexible vinyl interests and who represent the industry's full value chain. The FVA helps to educate and connect companies to state and local issues with potential business impact. Membership is free of charge.

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