

FLEXIBLE VINYL MATTERS

DECEMBER 2015



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.

USGBC MATERIALS CREDIT RESOLUTION ANNOUNCED

On November 10, the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC) announced new guidance for its Materials and Resources Credit, intended to help building product manufacturers meet the requirements of 'Option 3' related to the environmental and health impacts of their products.

The American Chemistry Council (ACC), along with vinyl interests and additional supply chain stakeholders, provided multiple inputs into this process to make Option 3 of the Credit actionable and science-based.

This process was initiated by concerns expressed over certain elements of the proposed "LEED v4" standard that contained references to 'Red Lists', and was seen by many as containing anti-vinyl biases.

There is praise for USGBC in completing this corrective step. Numerous organizations and interested parties have indicated that this action demonstrates USGBC's leadership through its use of comprehensive management systems for assessing environment, health and safety impacts of chemical products.

The new [option 3 guidance](http://www.usgbc.org/resources/leed-v4-mr-credit-building-disclosure-and-optimization-material-ingredients-option-3-imple) focuses on rewarding manufacturer achievements related to programs that drive the environmental, health and safety management of hazardous ingredients within the supply chain. For more information: <http://www.usgbc.org/resources/leed-v4-mr-credit-building-disclosure-and-optimization-material-ingredients-option-3-imple>



In The News

Snow Faux the Holidays

Flexible PVC wall graphics can make your dreams come true, even if you are living in Florida, Texas or Arizona.



Featured here is a high definition Fathead® wall graphic made of tough, high-grade vinyl that's tear and fade resistant so that you can be assured your eye-catching Fathead will stay strong. And if the thought of taking down your Fathead® makes you want to cry, don't worry, because it uses a low-tack adhesive that can be moved and re-used without any damage to your walls. These PVC products are perfect for transforming person-caves, basements, family rooms, TV rooms, bedrooms, workout rooms, offices or any other interior area with a smooth, clean surface. More information is available at:

www.fathead.com

So to you and yours, FVA offers Best Wishes for a Happy Holiday Season.

See you in 2016!

ADVOCACY IN ACTION

California Announces Safe Use Determination (SUD) for PVC Roofing

Nearly one year ago, the Chemical Fabrics and Film Association (CFFA) submitted a Safe Use Determination (SUD) request for specified vinyl roofing. On November 25, the California Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA) granted the SUD request for vinyl roofing containing the phthalate DINP. The action was based on its assessment that exposure to DINP from vinyl roofing is well below the proposed DINP safe harbor level. This is the first SUD issued by OEHHA in 12 years.



OEHHA indicated that it intends to issue final decisions on pending SUD requests for DINP in vinyl flooring, carpet tiles and fabric by the end of 2015.

Kevin Ott Addresses Prop 65 Threats to the Industry at VinylTec 2015

FVA Executive Director, Kevin Ott, spoke to the more than 200 attendees at SPE's VinylTec 2015 on the topic of California's Prop 65. Ott pointed out that there are more than 890 chemicals now listed under Prop 65 as either carcinogens or reproductive toxics. Aside from chemicals, the Prop 65 list also includes aspirin, alcohol, certain chemotherapies, marijuana smoke and salted fish indicating the arbitrary nature of listings and list criteria.

It was emphasized that there are four options to deal with business liabilities inherent in selling chemical-containing products in California: label, reformulate, self-insure or cross your fingers and hope for the best. Ott also detailed the confusing nomenclature used to navigate this regulation, including SUD, NSRL, NOV, OEHHA and MADL.

To become better informed about Prop 65 issues, visit www.prop65scam.org and look into the Prop 65 Protection Program™ liability insurance coverage now being provided through the SPI at www.prop65protection.org.

FVA Publishes New Industry Issues Data

In November, the FVA conducted a new poll of its members regarding issues of concern facing the flexible vinyl value chain. More than 40 North American respondents including resin producers, compounders and product converters participated. FVA's last poll was conducted in 2011 and there was a marked change in the 2015 results.

Concerns including state, federal and international regulations, voluntary standards, market and retail de-selection initiatives and NGO attacks all rated above 40% as issues of "high concern." Of top concern is California's Proposition 65 (Prop 65). DINP, a common plasticizer used in hundreds of product applications, is included on the Prop 65 list. Appeals have been filed to de-list DINP. Those proceedings are pending. Complete survey results are posted on FVA's website:

www.flexvinylalliance.com



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and on the FVA Website**

www.flexvinylalliance.com

www.linkedin.com

Breaking News

By voice vote on December 17 with bipartisan support, the Senate passed its version of TSCA (Toxic Substances Control Act) reform, the Chemical Safety for the 21st Century Act, S. 697. Earlier this year the House passed its version of TSCA. The House and Senate will soon convene a conference committee to work out their differences, including the handling of confidential business information, on a final bill.

Important Dates

PVC Formulation 2016

April 5 -7, 2016

Cologne, Germany

<http://www.amiplastics.com/events/event?Code=C699>

SOCMA's 9th Annual Washington Fly-In

April 11-12, 2016

www.socma.com

SPI Vinyl

**Compounders
Division**

Conference

July 11-13, 2016

The Breakers

Palm Beach, FL

www.plasticsindustry.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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