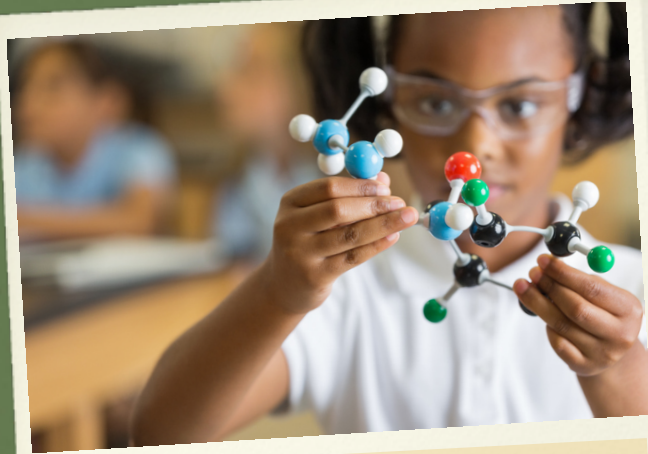


FLEXIBLE VINYL MATTERS

SPRING EDITION 2017



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's Comments to CPSC Ask for Scientific Rigor in Regulatory Process

On March 24, FVA submitted comments to the Consumer Products Safety Commission (CPSC) in reference to a lengthy and protracted proposed rule-making around the prohibition of certain phthalates in children's toys made with vinyl. This issue dates back to 2008 with the passage of the Consumer Products Safety Improvement Act (CPSIA) that led to the formation of the CPSC's Chronic Hazard Advisory Committee (CHAP).

In its comments, FVA stressed that the Commission needs to review the proposed actions from the CHAP report in the context of newer data and to make revisions to the action plan and proposed rule that correctly align with the safety of phthalates, as evidenced by "NHANES" data enhancements.

FVA also advocated for good science to lead the way in fulfilling mutual industry and government objectives of providing safe products for the consuming public. To that end, risk-based chemical regulation is essential where exposure matters and dose and duration are central to the research and outcomes.

FVA's comments can be accessed at www.flexvinylalliance.com under Industry News. For a deeper understanding of the details, visit <https://www.regulations.gov/document?D=CPSC-2014-0033-0136>.



In The News

Flexible Vinyl: Taking a Bite Out of X-Rays

Anyone who has had dental x-rays over the past few years may have noticed a comfort-enhanced experience when compared to the gag-inducing hard films of old. This is due to a softer bite-wing film apparatus and you may thank flexible vinyl for this.

To achieve patient comfort, X-ray film, paper, and foil are layered between protective vinyl film outer layers. The manufacturing technology is sophisticated. After sealing the layers together, a die cuts the packets and leaves a tiny border of exposed vinyl to serve as an adhesion site for the cushioning bead. Packets are carefully transitioned throughout the injection molding process so the X-ray film isn't damaged.



There are additional patient benefits to this technology. The vinyl layer serves as a barrier between saliva and blood, reducing the risk of infection. So next time you are in "the chair" having your dental x-rays, remember that flexible vinyl matters – and that's a mouthful!

ADVOCACY IN ACTION

Advocate for PVC: Three Congressional Fly-Ins Slated

Three important and distinctive “meet your members of Congress” initiatives are slated for April, May and July, characterized as Congressional “Fly-Ins.” There are 55 new members in Congress, so the importance of educating them about the industry and priorities is essential.

SOCMA's Fly-In will take place April 25-26. In addition to regularly planned meetings with members' respective Congressional Representatives, SOCMA plans meetings for teams of attendees that are issue-specific such as Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) implementation, trade, regulatory reform and burdens on small business. Register at: www.socma.com/meetings-events/socma-events/annual-fly-in.



The Vinyl Institute (VI) 2017 Fly-In will be held May 17-18. Four issues are slated for coverage: regulatory reform, housing, trade and water infrastructure. Additional meetings with Trump Administration officials are also being organized. Register at <http://www.vinylinfo.org/vinyl-institute/events/vinyl-industry-congressional-fly>.

PLASTICS (formerly the SPI) partnered with the American Chemistry Council (ACC) Plastics Division, International Association of Plastics Distribution (IAPD), American Mold Builders Association (AMBA), Plastics Pipe Institute (PPI) and Manufacturers Association for Plastics Processors (MAPP) will conduct a Fly-In on July 25-26. Registration link: <http://www.plasticsindustry.org/plastics-industry-fly>.

Vinyl Verified Update

As has been featured in previous editions of Flexible Vinyl Matters, the FVA is a supporting organization, through the Vinyl Institute, of CounterPoint and Vinyl Verified. Please visit www.vinylverified.com for further information. Vinyl Verified continues to address media bias and agenda-driven misinformation about vinyl in the public domain.

While not all of the issues currently being addressed by CounterPoint are specific to flexible vinyl, all are important to responsible messaging about PVC and in some cases, the defense of PVC. Last week, VI and the PVC Pipe Association countered false reports that PVC pipe was the fuel for Atlanta's I-85 bridge fire. PVC does not burn, nor is it magically self-combustible. As a result, CNN corrected its story. Suspected arsonists are now in custody. The fuel was identified as HDPE spools.

Currently being closely monitored are claims by the Healthy Building Network that PVC is responsible for health issues related to asbestos and Brazilian mine workers. Once again, false claims are being countered with science, facts and persistence. If something in the media needs attention, please alert Kevin Ott.

CounterPoint calls occur weekly on Mondays at 3 PM EDT. To participate, email kott@flexvinylalliance.com.

The Food Additive Petition (FAP) Response

FVA members who would like an update on the procedural questions tied to the FDA Food Additive Petition, the survey now in circulation or the planned defense of the use of targeted phthalates in the petition should contact Kevin Ott of FVA. In the summer edition, further details on the expected outcome of the multi-pronged defense effort will be provided.

Important Dates

VinylPlus Sustainability Forum

May 10 - 11, 2017

Berlin, Germany

<http://www.vinylplus.eu>

PLASTICS

Flexible Vinyl Products Division Annual Compounders Meeting

July 9 - 11, 2017

Denver, CO

<http://www.plasticsindustry.org/event/28th-annual-compounders-conference>

VI Annual Meeting: Vinyl360

November 8 - 10, 2017

Ponte Vedra, Florida

<http://www.vinylinfo.org/vinyl-institute/events/vinyl360>

SPE VinylTec

October 10 - 12, 2017

San Antonio, TX

<https://www.eiseverywhere.com//ehome/218021>

Membership

For more information and to join:

In 2017, thanks to the support from dedicated stakeholders, the Flexible Vinyl Alliance will continue its advocacy work on behalf of the manufacturers, compounders, formulators and allied interests that represent the \$20 billion North American flexible vinyl industry.

To keep current on all matters vinyl, please join FVA's LinkedIn group and visit the website. Please consider joining FVA's 200+ active members.

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