

# FLEXIBLE VINYL MATTERS

## HOLIDAY EDITION 2017



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.

### 2017 Fall Value Chain Survey Results Are In: California a Concern

**T**hank you to the more than forty participants who took time to complete the Flexible Vinyl Alliance 2017 Value Chain Survey, a bi-annual poll. Results can be seen at: [www.flexvinylalliance.com](http://www.flexvinylalliance.com)

Once again, the Survey revealed concerns with de-selection attempts at the state-level, particularly in California. Their continued focus is adding chemicals to the "Prop 65" red-list, as well as efforts to move product-specific industries away from certain "chemicals of concern."

As was pointed out multiple times in the survey's "open comment" section, "California Prop 65 would like to eliminate PVC and we need to be mindful that other states often follow California." As a sidebar, this comment is backed-up by the content of the new September 2017 State of California "Fact Sheet" on phthalates. The fact sheet takes liberties with science and risk assessment, with a highlighted recommendation to, "Avoid plastics known

as polyvinyl chloride (PVC) or vinyl (with recycle code 3)." The CA Fact Sheet can be seen here:

[https://www.p65warnings.ca.gov/sites/default/files/downloads/factsheets/general\\_phthalate\\_fact\\_sheet.pdf](https://www.p65warnings.ca.gov/sites/default/files/downloads/factsheets/general_phthalate_fact_sheet.pdf)

In 2018, FVA will be addressing the inaccuracies contained in this fact sheet.

On a very positive note, 66% of respondents indicated that their vinyl product sales were growing. FVA-members also expressed satisfaction and support of FVA advocacy efforts to defend PVC at the state and federal levels, and FVA's continued highlighting of key vinyl applications in medical, flooring, wire and cable and other markets.

For survey details and PowerPoint slides, members may contact Kevin Ott.



## In The News

### Vinyl Santa Waves Hello and Goodbye - in Traffic!

Just in time for the Holidays, this vinyl decal affixed to the rear of your SUV, lets you say "Merry Christmas" in motion! The vinyl decal is self-adhering, with Santa's arm attached directly to the wiper blade assembly using Velcro. (At this writing, Santa was still in stock at Amazon.) So, on the way to Grandma's for dinner, let those tailgaters know how you really feel ---- with a festive Holiday wave!



On behalf of the Flexible Vinyl Alliance, we wish all our industry supporters and dedicated members a Merry Christmas and a Happy 2018 --- FVA's 8th year!



## ADVOCACY IN ACTION

### FVA Comments to State of California on Candidate Chemicals Related to Vinyl Flooring

FVA filed comments on November 6th to California's Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC). In its comments, FVA stated that any chemical and priority product chosen to be regulated by this program must meet both of the following criteria:

- 1) there must be potential public and/or aquatic, avian, or terrestrial animal or plant organism exposure to the Candidate Chemical(s) in the product;
- 2) there must be the potential for one or more exposures to contribute to or cause significant or widespread adverse impacts.

FVA's conclusion is that exposure to ortho-phthalates in vinyl flooring does not cause significant or widespread adverse impacts.

See FVA's full comments at [www.flexvinylalliance.com](http://www.flexvinylalliance.com) or on the California docket at <https://calsafer.dtsc.ca.gov>

### CPSC Issues Rule on Phthalates in Toys

After nearly a decade of proceedings, the Consumer Products Safety Commission (CPSC) voted 3 to 2 on October 18, 2017 to issue a final rule prohibiting children's toys and child care articles containing more than 0.1 percent of certain phthalate chemicals. The rule will take effect 180 days after publication in the Federal Register. The final rule removes the interim prohibition regarding DNOP and DIDP. CPSC has determined that these phthalates do not cause adverse effects on male reproductive development, and other risks attendant to their use are low. Other phthalates are permanently banned. Over the years, FVA had submitted multiple inputs on this matter. To see details, visit FVA website or go to <https://www.cpsc.gov/content/cpsc-prohibits-certain-phthalates-in-children%E2%80%99s-toys-and-child-care-products#>



### Flexible Vinyl Alliance: What's in Store for 2018

Thanks to continued support from sponsoring members, FVA will carry forward with its advocacy agenda in 2018. There are numerous anticipated efforts that will require industry focus, collaboration and support. These include:

- state and federal chemical policies;
- industry-wide sustainability initiatives based on continuous improvement goals and key performance indicators under the leadership of the Vinyl Business and Sustainability Council (VBSC);
- ongoing efforts, as supported by FVA and other trade groups, for Vinyl Verified -- insuring the use of balanced reporting around PVC;
- increased awareness on the continued propagation of "red-lists" by anti-plastics NGO's;
- a focus on a thorough response to the still-pending Food Additive Petition at the Food & Drug Administration;
- and, a continued effort to offer up positive messaging around the medical, building products, wire and cable, automotive products and other essentials fabricated with flexible vinyl.

## Important Dates

### PVC Australia: Shaping the Future

March 13 - 15, 2018

Sydney, NSW Australia

<http://www.vinyl.org.au/news/pvc-aus-2018>

### 8th Vinyl India 2018

April 12 - 13, 2018

Grand Hyatt Mumbai, India

<http://epbs.co.in/wp/vinyl-india-2018/>

### NPE 2018

May 7 - 11, 2018

Orlando, Florida

[http://](http://www.npe.org/about-npe2018)

[www.npe.org/about-npe2018](http://www.npe.org/about-npe2018)



### The Vinyl Plus

#### 2018 Sustainability Forum

May 16 - 17, 2018

Madrid, Spain

<https://vinylplus.eu/community/vinyl-sustainability-forum/the-vinylplus-sustainability-forum-2018>

## Membership

### For more information and to join:

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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