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European Environmental Bureau
E-tools Seminar on dangerous substances, OSHA
Bilbao on 26-27 September 2017
MOVING TOWARDS SAFER ALTERNATIVES

Support for Substitution

Substitution of hazardous chemicals is a fundamental measure to reduce risks to environment, workers, consumers and public health.

Legislation encourages you to substitute, this site will show you how.

Read more

Latest News

GreenScreen® is 10 years old!

Publications & tools | 31.03.2017

GreenScreen® for Safer Chemicals was launched in 2007 and has become a widely recognised tool for assessing chemical hazards, identifying chemicals of concern, and selecting safer chemicals. It is a method of comparative Chemical Hazard Assessment that can be used for identifying chemicals of high concern and safer alternatives.

Read more

Substitution Steps

Substitution may be fast and easy or a more complex process. Generally it includes the following steps:

1. Define the problem
2. Set substitution criteria
3. Search for alternatives
4. Assess and compare alternatives
5. Experiment on pilot
6. Implement and improve

Read more

Search SUBSPORT

Website
Restricted and priority substances database » link
Case study database » link

Search  » Overview

External substitution websites and databases

Search

Your contribution
Provide substitution examples
Provide feedback
Aims

✔ State-of-the-art resource on safer alternatives.
✔ Support companies in fulfilling substitution legal requirements.
✔ Resource for authorities, environmental and consumer organisations, and scientific institutions.
✔ Promote the sharing and exchange of practice.
✔ Target group: workers and employers, public authorities, governments, NGOs and others who are looking for alternatives.
Key features

Case Story Database
(370 case stories)

Restricted and priority substances database
(34 lists)

Training and seminars
(25 sessions)
MOVING TOWARDS SAFER ALTERNATIVES

**Case story database**

You can use the free text search function to find information in the case story database. Use the search filters to refine your search.

Please enter your search text or numerical substance identifier

**Search filters**

**Sector**

All

More search filters

**Items per page**

- 15
- 25
- 50

In order to perform a search you need to confirm that you read the [methodology](#) applied.

Search Database
Polyvinyl chloride (PVC) Power Cord Alternatives

Abstract

Polyvinyl chloride (PVC) has been targeted for replacement in electronic products because of concerns about the environmental and human health impacts associated with the disposal of PVC wires and cables. Thermoplastic elastomers (TPEs) are a class of potential alternatives to PVC. TPEs are inherently flexible, which can eliminate the need for phthalate plasticizers; however, they require an added flame retardant to meet regulatory requirements. To ensure that the replacements for PVC have a lower adverse impact to human health and the environment, potential replacement materials were evaluated using an integrated approach that incorporates a comparative chemical hazard screening step based on the GreenScreen for Safer Chemicals [http://www.cleanproduction.org/greenscreen.php], a framework developed by the non-governmental organization Clean Production Action.

Substituted substance(s)

1. Polyvinyl chloride (PVC)
   CAS No. 9002-86-2 EC No. Index No.
2. Dibutyl phthalate
   CAS No. 84-74-2 EC No. 201-557-4 Index No. 607-318-00-4
3. DI(2-ethylhexyl) phthalate
   CAS No. 117-81-7 EC No. 204-211-0 Index No. 607-317-00-9

Alternative substance(s)

Chlorinated rubber, butadiene rubber (SBR) rubber
Case story database

- Abstract
- Substituted substance(s)
- Alternative substance(s)
- Other type of alternative
- Reliability of information
- Hazard assessment
- Substitution description
- Case/substitution evaluation
- Who provided the information
- Publication source
Restricted and priority substances database

International agreements
EU regulatory lists
Governmental lists
NGO,
Trade union,
Company lists.
Help participants get started in substitution processes,
understand the different stakeholders involved;
which substances are of most concern,
find how and where to look for new ideas and alternatives and
get introduced to existing tools to assess alternatives.
Further features

Substitution Steps

Substitution in legislation

Identifying Substances of Concern

Substitution Tools
Developers

Kooperationsstelle Hamburg IFE GmbH (Germany)
ChemSec (Sweden)
Grontmij (Denmark)
ISTAS (Spain)

External expertise: TURI (USA)

Since 2013 SUBSPORT is run by Kooperationsstelle Hamburg IFE GmbH

- **LIFE+** Programme of the European Union
- **BAuA** – Federal Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, Germany
- Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water Management, Austria
Strengths

**Project team:** Multi-stakeholder, Multi-cultural, Expertise

**Expert Committee:** authorities, companies, agencies (OSHA, ECHA),

**Transparency:** assessment methodology, case stories, sources of information

**Different entry points,** different levels of information

**Case study approach,** harmonised criteria, directed to laymen and users.
Weaknesses

- Long term sustainability (no relevant financial support after 2013).

- Difficulties to convince user companies to provide their substitution practices / examples into the database.

- Quality and quantity of data on toxicity, potential shift of risks and uncertainties on long term technical application of the substitute.
Development challenges

Compilation of information from companies for case study database

Partners and activities coordination
Expert Committee

During events with different stakeholders

Trade union representatives
Internationally acknowledged portal

August 2013:

80 websites and reports linked to SUBSPORT

18 training sessions

Highly successful dissemination