



# HSIA

halogenated  
solvents  
industry  
alliance, inc.

# SOLVENTS NEWS YOU CAN USE

JANUARY 2012

CONTACT: Faye Graul (fgraul@hsia.org)

## **NATIONAL TOXICOLOGY PROGRAM (NTP) RELEASES LIST OF 15 SUBSTANCES FOR CONSIDERATION FOR LISTING IN "REPORT ON CARCINOGENS"**

On January 19th, the National Toxicology Program nominated 15 substances, including trichloroethylene, for inclusion in a future Report on Carcinogens (the 12th Report was published in June 2011, and the 13th Report will be published in 2014-2016.) NTP is requesting data on the substances including current production, use patterns, human exposure, published studies, scientific issues, and experts by February 28, 2012. HSIA will be providing comments on the potential inclusion of trichloroethylene. This action follows NTP's rejection of most of the suggestions made by HSIA and other chemical groups on changes to the process used to develop the report.

## **GAO RELEASES A REPORT ENTITLED "CHEMICAL ASSESSMENTS: CHALLENGES REMAIN WITH EPA'S INTEGRATED RISK INFORMATION PROGRAM"**

This report was requested by the Congressman Brad Miller, the Ranking Member of the Subcommittee on Energy and the Environment, House Committee on Science, Space and Technology. The report recommends that "EPA assess the feasibility of the established time frames for each step in the IRIS process and make changes if necessary, submit for independent review to an entity with scientific and technical credibility a plan for how EPA will implement the National Academies' suggestions, and ensure that current and accurate information on chemicals that EPA plans to assess through IRIS is available to IRIS users." Appendix III of the report provides details on several IRIS chemicals including trichloroethylene and perchloroethylene. EPA classified the IRIS assessments of trichloroethylene and acrylamide as "exceptionally complex." The IRIS assessment of perchloroethylene is now expected to be released in the first quarter of calendar year 2012. The report can be accessed at [www.gao.gov/assets/590/586620.pdf](http://www.gao.gov/assets/590/586620.pdf).

## **HSIA PRESENTED ITS CONCERNS WITH THE FINAL TRICHLOROETHYLENE IRIS ASSESSMENT TO THE SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION'S ENVIRONMENTAL ROUNDTABLE ON DECEMBER 9, 2011**

John Bell, HSIA's Director of Scientific Programs, and Caffey Norman, Patton Boggs/Counsel to HSIA, accepted an invitation to speak to the SBA's Roundtable and pointed out a number of problems with the IRIS program's classification of trichloroethylene as carcinogenic to humans. They specifically pointed to the 2009 National Academy of Sciences conclusions that there is "limited/suggestive evidence of an association" with kidney cancer, an "inadequate/insufficient amount of evidence to determine" an association with non-hodgkin's lymphoma, and "inadequate/insufficient evidence" to determine an association with liver cancer. Their remarks were well received by the audience.

## **ACTIVITY ON THE SOLVENTS PICKS UP AT THE STATE LEVEL**

As state legislatures swing into gear and members face re-election, it is traditional for environment legislation to move through the legislative process. In addition, environmentalists are pushing states to adopt green purchasing policies such as that adopted in 2010 by the State of New York. New York's program lists 85 chemicals that should be avoided and includes perchloroethylene and trichloroethylene. The States of Massachusetts and Connecticut will be the focus of this push in 2012. Also in Massachusetts, the Toxic Use Reduction Institute has signaled an interest in identifying priority user groups, designed to limit use by small users, for perchloroethylene. This follows last year's effort to establish such groups for trichloroethylene which failed when it was pointed out that there is no adequate substitute for small users.

