



HSIA

halogenated
solvents
industry
alliance, inc.

SOLVENTS NEWS YOU CAN USE

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INTEGRATED RISK ASSESSMENTS CLOSE TO BEING RELEASED BY EPA

The risk assessments for trichloroethylene, perchlorethylene and methylene chloride will soon be released to the public by the Environmental Protection Agency. We expect the assessments to be released in the fall and in the order just listed. HSIA will be reviewing the assessments and providing you with our comments soon after they are released.

OZONE TRANSPORT COMMISSION RELEASES A REDRAFT OF THEIR PROPOSED MODEL RULE ON SOLVENT DEGREASING

After receiving numerous comments from the public on the initial proposed model rule, the Ozone Transport Commission took a step back and redid the rule. The revised rule can be found on their website – www.otcair.org – and comments will be accepted through September 27th. HSIA will be participating in a stakeholder session on the rule outside of Baltimore, MD on September 8th. We will provide you with our comments when they are prepared and submitted. For copies of our comments on the first model rule, visit our website – www.hsia.org.

A VICTORY IN MASSACHUSETTS FOR MANUFACTURERS AND SMALL BUSINESS USERS OF TRICHLOROETHYLENE

On July 19th, during the monthly meeting of the Toxic Use Reduction Act Administrative Council, they unanimously voted not to create Priority User Segments for Massachusetts companies, and in particular small businesses, using trichloroethylene. During the Council's discussions, they were asked by a member of the audience if there were viable substitutes for industry to use, and the Deputy Director of the Toxic User Reduction Institute, Liz Harriman, admitted that viable substitutes did not exist for small manufacturers. If they had proceeded to try to regulate the Priority User Segments, it would have led to increased scrutiny of users of trichloroethylene and moves to suggest the use of safer alternatives.

EUROPEAN GROUP PUBLISHES A STUDY ON THE CLEANING PERFORMANCE OF PERCHLOROETHYLENE VERSES ALTERNATIVES

CINET, the International Committee of Textile Care, an umbrella organization that pools resources of national textile care associations, released a study this month comparing the cleaning performance of eight "alternatives" to perchloroethylene, which is still the most widely used drycleaning solvent in Europe and the United States. Including were hydrocarbon, Green Earth, liquid CO₂, wetcleaning, Solvon k4, Rynex, and iPura. N-Propyl Bromide (marketed as DrySolv and Fabrisolv) was not included in the European study. For a copy of the CINET report, visit their website at www.cinet.org.

HSIA RESPONDS TO A RECENT ARTICLE IN THE WALL STREET JOURNAL ENTITLED "THE NEW DIRT ON DRYCLEANERS" (JULY 28, 2011)

HSIA sent a detailed reponse in the form of a Letter to the Editor and while it was edited down, it did get our points across. This is what was published on August 12th. "I would like to clarify a number of points in "The New Dirt on Drycleaners" and confirm that the makers of perchloroethylene, or perc, remain fully committed to the safe and effective use of the solvent by the dry cleaning industry. Despite the new options available for garment care, perc continues to provide superior cleaning performance and is the choice of about 70% of dry cleaners. From a safety point of view, it's important to note that perc is one of the most studied industrial chemicals. New dry cleaning equipment is designed to minimize emissions, and the newest of these machines cleans more than 600 pounds of clothes using one gallon of perc, a more efficient rate of "solvent mileage" than alternatives. Many dry cleaners have installed vapor barriers and implemented training and safety education programs to provide further safeguards. Some cities have adopted perc bans. We oppose such measures as unhelpful to the environment and unduly restrictive of consumer choice."

