



## **PLASTICISERS WORLD**

### **Flexible PVC flooring does not cause asthma – recent study inconclusive**

Some media have recently reported about a study by Whatt et al published in Environmental Health Perspectives claiming an association between childhood asthma and pre-natal exposure to two phthalates (BBzP and DnBP). However, it is very important to keep in mind that association does not mean causation. The paper concludes that further investigation is required to prove the legitimacy of the key results of the study, which are in any case not aligned with the existing literature. [>>Read more](#)

### **ECHA publishes favourable opinion to continue using DEHP and DBP in certain applications**

ECHA's Committees for Risk Assessment (RAC) and Socio-economic Analysis (SEAC) have issued draft opinions expressing their support to authorise the continued use of DEHP in many PVC applications - including recycled ones - and DBP in solvent, propellant and ceramic applications. The final decision on Authorisation rests with the European Commission. [>>Read more](#)

### **Loom bands – Phthalates are not carcinogenic, children's safety is paramount**

Uber-popular loom bands have been under the spotlight following some tests done in the UK supposedly showing phthalate levels higher than allowed by EU regulation. Most news stories, including the announcement posted by the UK lab, have incorrectly labelled phthalates as carcinogenic substances which is simply not correct. Loom bands and charms produced in accordance to EU legislation should not present any risk to children's health. [>>Read more](#)

### **ECPI welcome Denmark's decision to withdraw ban on DEHP, DBP, DIBP and BBP**

ECPI welcomed the Danish Environment Ministry decision to withdraw its proposed ban on DEHP, DBP, DIBP and BBP, due to incompatibilities with EU's chemical legislation. However, ECPI is concerned to hear that the Danish Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has announced its intention to submit REACH Candidate List proposals for these four classified phthalates due to their potential endocrine-disrupting effects. ECPI consider that there is no need for additional SVHC dossiers. [>>Read more](#)

## EVENTS

### Media field trip



On 6 and 7 October 2014, eight journalists from European Trade Magazines travelled to Italy for 2 days Media Field Trip organised by ECPI in the framework of the VinylPlus sustainability initiative. Participants had the opportunity to learn about flexible PVC applications and PVC recycling through the visit of Vulcaflex – leading producer of PVC films in Ravenna and VinylLoop – one of the most innovative PVC composites recycling plants in the world. Flag, a company specialised in synthetic waterproof membranes using Vinylloop PVC recyclates was also presented illustrating the advantages of sustainability and controlled loop.

### Plasticisers Conference

ECPI will be at the 2014 edition of the Plasticisers Conference taking place on 9-10 December at Le Chatelain Hotel, Brussels. There will be presentations by the ECPI general manager and many member companies' representatives as well as academics, NGOs, regulators and converters. [>>More information](#)

## PRESS REVIEW

### Do We Really Have to Worry About Shower Curtains Causing Weight Gain?

Geoffrey Kabat, epidemiologist and author of "Hyping Health Risks", writes in Forbes about endocrine disruptors and how often scientific studies are misinterpreted by the media creating unfounded scares. [>>Full article](#)

### Let's change how we report truth in science journalism

Sharon Dunwoody, SciDevNet, looks at the importance of 'weight of evidence' to avoid bias when interpreting scientific results. [>>Full article](#)

## WHAT'S NEW ONLINE

### Revamped [www.plasticisers.org](http://www.plasticisers.org)



We are currently in the process of revamping [www.plasticisers.org](http://www.plasticisers.org) to make the site more user-friendly and introduce new functionalities and more comprehensive information about all plasticisers. The new website will be live by the end of the year. Watch this space!

### Flexible PVC in Sports



Did you know that more than 140,000 square meters of flexible PVC were used in London Olympics? Or that virgin and recycled PVC was used extensively in some of the Brazil Football World cup earlier this year? Besides stadiums and large venues, flexible PVC applications are essential for a wide range of amateur and professional sports [>> Read more](#)

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Plasticisers and Flexible PVC - NEWS BRIEF

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