

November 2020

YOUR PLASTICISERS NEWS UPDATE

NEW VIDEO "ABOUT EUROPEAN PLASTICISERS"

European Plasticisers is proud to introduce a new video showcasing its role and ambitions. You can find it on our website europeanplasticisers.eu or on our [YouTube channel](#).

And don't hesitate to like, comment or share on [Twitter](#) or [LinkedIn](#)!



EUROPEAN PLASTICISERS KEEPS PROGRESSING TOWARDS A BRIGHT FUTURE FOR THE PLASTICISERS INDUSTRY

European Plasticisers' General Assembly of 4 November decided to split the Advocacy and Communications Working Group into two separate groups.

Hendrik Fischer (Evonik), former Vice-Chairman of the Scientific WG, becomes the first Chair of the newly created Advocacy WG. Maciej Budner (Grupa Azoty) takes over the role of Chairman of the Communication WG.

As the Chair of European Plasticisers, Nigel Sarginson (ExxonMobil), commented: *"This change has been carefully considered by the General Assembly taking into account the many regulatory and communication challenges and opportunities for our industry - it represents an additional evolution consistent with the rebranding of European Plasticisers and the launch of its new identity, in 2017. Congratulations to Hendrik and Maciej on their new roles!"*

"This change will streamline our decision making and allow us to be even more responsive and proactive vis-à-vis an always evolving regulatory landscape ", commented Hendrik Fischer, Chair of the Advocacy WG.

Maciej Budner commented: *"As Chair of the Communication WG, I will guide our members to fulfill our mission and vision by promoting the benefits of all plasticisers and their applications. We will work even more closely together to convey the united message of an association which is able to represent the members and the substances they produce."*

Further to these changes, Michael Grass, Director of Innovations at Evonik, becomes the new Vice-Chairman of the Scientific WG, confirming his strong involvement in the monitoring and research activities carried out by the group.



Hendrik Fischer (Evonik)
is Chairman of the Advocacy Working Group.

Maciej Budner
(Grupa Azoty)
is Chairman of the Communication Working Group.

Michael Grass
(Evonik)
is the new Vice-Chairman of the Scientific Working Group.

NEW STUDY ON DINP EXPOSURE



The toxicological study “*Systematic Comparison of the Male Reproductive Tract in Fetal and Adult Wistar Rats exposed to DBP and DINP in utero during the Masculinisation Programming Window*”, conducted at the University of Edinburgh, was just published by Van den Driesche et al. (2020) in the peer-reviewed Journal **Toxicology Letters**.

The study investigates possible effects of in utero exposure of rats to a low dose (125 mg/kg bw/day) and a high dose (750 mg/kg bw/day) of Diisononyl phthalate (DINP) and makes a comparison with (Dibutyl phthalate) DBP, used as a positive control.

Overall, the results of this systematic comparison provide convincing evidence on the differences between the effects occurring with DBP and the lack of effects by DINP. The **results of the study demonstrate that DINP does not cause the adverse reproductive effects** known to occur with DBP, identified as an endocrine disruptor under REACH due to the adverse reproductive effects being associated with a decrease in testosterone levels.

The study supports the robust weight of evidence opinion of RAC 2018 on DINP confirming that DINP does not show any adverse reproductive effects.

"The publication of the study undertaken at the University of Edinburgh demonstrates once again the engagement of European Plasticisers within the scientific community and our commitment to plasticisers", commented Rainer Otter, Chair of the Scientific Working Group.

[READ THE FULL PAPER](#)

REGULATORY UPDATES



The EU Commission publishes its Chemical Strategy for Sustainability (CSS)

On 14 October 2020, the European Commission published its long awaited Chemical Strategy for Sustainability. The strategy, while not legally binding, sets the roadmap for future European legislation.

On behalf of the chemical industry, [Cefic](#) - of which European Plasticisers is a sector group - has issued a [statement](#) welcoming aspects of the initiative, but warning about missed opportunities (growth strategy

for the chemical industry, policy coherence to protect Green Deal investments and 'EU homegrown solutions', balance between chemicals ban and enabling technology solutions).



New EFSA mandate

EFSA has published "[Part 1 of a 2-part mandate on a re-evaluation of the risks to public health related to the presence of phthalates, structurally similar substances and replacement substances from food contact materials \(FCMs\)](#)" in the [EFSA register of questions](#) (Mandate Number M-2020-0183).

According to this new mandate from the European Commission, EFSA will address limitations of the work carried out in the previous mandate, which led to proposed Tolerable Daily Intakes (TDIs) for phthalates on a temporary basis (see European Plasticisers [Press Release](#) further to the publication of the EFSA final opinion).

The first task of EFSA will be to "*prioritise and identify those phthalates, structurally similar substances and replacement substances based on the list in annex II to this mandate letter that warrant further data collection and insofar as they may be relevant for eventual inclusion in an assessment of the risks associated with their presence and migration from food contact materials*". EFSA and ECHA are requested to work together in this first part of the mandate.

As a second step, EFSA will establish a protocol for dietary exposure assessment of the prioritised substances and hazard assessment for the prioritised substances.

Finally, EFSA should also establish a call for data on occurrence of the prioritised substances in food to support dietary exposure estimates.

European Plasticisers is ready to contribute as appropriate, by providing scientific data and any other information EFSA may require to fulfill its mandate in a thorough manner and based on a robust weight of evidence assessment of all the relevant data.

EVENTS



[Read more about the event here](#)

VinylPlus Sustainability Forum 2020

The VSF 2020 was held virtually on 15 October 2020 and successfully brought together 180 participants from 24 countries.

During the VSF 2020, European Plasticisers was able to share its latest updates on a dedicated platform to all participants. A particular highlight of the VinylPlus progress is the achievement of 770,000 tonnes of rigid and flexible vinyl recycled in 2019, making VinylPlus a leader in the transition to the Circular Economy. This includes the recycling of evaluated non-classified plasticisers, thereby supporting the objective of material cycles with non-hazardous additives (as defined by the European CLP Regulation).

Webinar: BioEconomy Day 2020 

PLASTICA SMETTO QUANDO VOGLIO?

Giovedì 24 settembre, ore 16:00 - 

16:00 - Saluti di benvenuto
Prof.ssa Laura Cipolla
Presidente del Consiglio di Coordinamento
Didattico di Biotecnologie

**16:10 - Plastificanti sostenibili:
una nuova speranza!**
Andrea Pasquale e Federico Acciaretta
Biotecnologie Industriali-UNIMIB

**16:30 - Scienza e sostenibilità
nell'industria europea dei plastificanti**
Michela Mastrantonio
Sector Group Manager European Plasticisers

**16:50 - Il contributo del PVC all'economia circolare
per una crescita sempre più sostenibile**
Ing. Carlo Ciotti
PVC Forum Italia / VinylPlus

**17:10 - Corepla 2025: il nuovo paradigma
della raccolta differenziata della plastica**
Ing. Antonio Protopapa
Direttore ricerca e sviluppo presso COREPLA

Iscrizioni: <https://forms.gle/ejAzmc1ntpCc3QHr5>



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FEDERCHIMICA ASSOBIOTEC
ASSOCIAZIONE NAZIONALE ANBI
SPRING

Webinar "Bioeconomy Day" by the University of Milano-Bicocca

Michela Mastrantonio, Manager of European Plasticisers, gave a presentation about science and sustainability within the plasticisers' industry during the BioEconomy Day organised by the University of Milano-Bicocca on September 24th.

Among the speakers were also the winners of our call for papers, Andrea Pasquale and Federico Acciaretta, who presented their research on di(2-ethylhexyl) adipate (DEHA). If you haven't read it yet, read it [here!](#)

NEW CEFIC PRESIDENT



BASF CEO Dr. Martin Brudermüller elected new president of Cefic

**Cefic elects new president:
Dr. Martin Brudermüller, CEO of BASF**

European Plasticisers welcomes the new president of Cefic. Dr. Brudermüller, CEO of BASF SE, was elected President of Cefic during Cefic's annual General Assembly on 15 October 2020.

BASF is a [member](#) of European Plasticisers.

[Read more about this appointment here.](#)

STAY IN TOUCH!



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