



DINP/DIDP & REACH

Data rich and ready



European Council for
Plasticisers and Intermediates
COMMITTED TO THE SCIENCE OF SAFETY


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DINP/DIDP: VERSATILE AND WIDELY USED PLASTICISERS

- About 95 per cent DINP and DIDP is used to make flexible PVC
- Flexible PVC is used in a wide range of construction and industrial applications and durable goods, e.g. automotive cables, electrical cables, vinyl flooring and wallcovering, waterproofing for roofs, swimming pool and pond liners, synthetic leather for car interiors, car underbody coatings, and footwear
- DINP and DIDP are valued for their low volatility both during processing and in PVC articles, for their extraction resistance, their improved durability, their good outdoor resistance and their good electrical insulation properties



DINP/DIDP: DATA RICH AND READY FOR REACH

 REACH is a new European chemicals regulation, which entered into force on 1 June 2007. REACH requires producers of substances, including DINP and DIDP, to provide data to the European Chemicals Agency on the substances to demonstrate that they are being safely handled and used.

DINP and DIDP have already undergone comprehensive risk assessments by European Union authorities under the Existing Substances Regulation. The data used during these risk assessments, which surpasses that required by REACH, provides the foundation for the substances' passage through the new legislation.



REGISTRATION

Under REACH, registration is the process by which chemicals producers provide a dossier to the newly created European Chemicals Agency in order to continue placing their substances on the European market. DINP and DIDP are data rich and ready for registration.

All members of The European Council for Plasticisers and Intermediates (ECPI) producing DINP and DIDP are required to submit, by December 2008, basic information to the European Chemicals Agency under pre-registration.

December 1, 2010 is the deadline for the joint submission of a full dossier of technical information for each of the substances, and registration by each manufacturer of substance identity and use information.

ECPI MEMBERS: WORKING TOGETHER FOR DINP/DIDP

Under the umbrella of ECPI, DINP and DIDP producers are working together to ensure that the substances successfully pass through the REACH process.

- ECPI member companies have committed to pre-register DINP and DIDP with the European Chemicals Agency during the second half of 2008
- A technical taskforce has been established to prepare a complete dossier for the joint registration of DINP and joint registration of DIDP by ECPI members by 2010

➤ EU RISK ASSESSMENTS

Conducted by experts from the EU Member States over a ten year period, the regulatory assessments of DINP and DIDP were published in April 2006.

These assessments confirmed that DINP and DIDP pose no risk to either human health or the environment from any current use. Moreover, DINP and DIDP are not classified as hazardous substances and will not be subject to the REACH Authorisation process.

In Europe the use of DINP and DIDP in toys and childcare articles which can be placed in the mouth has been restricted as a precautionary measure. This was done prior to the publication of the EU Risk Assessments. For DINP the EU scientific Risk Assessment Report concludes that its use in toys does not pose a risk to human health or the environment.



DINP/DIDP USERS: TRUSTED PARTNERS

➤ REACH requires enhanced communication between producers and users in order to ensure the smooth passage of DINP and DIDP through REACH. Under registration, users of DINP and DIDP may provide information on uses to their suppliers.

REACH requires that registrants develop Chemical Safety Reports for substances produced in quantities greater than 10 tonnes per year. This hazard assessment has been done for DINP and DIDP and neither substance is dangerous as defined by Directive 67/548/EEC nor are they PBT (Persistent, Bioaccumulative, Toxic) or vPvB (Very Persistent, Very Bioaccumulative), or «substances of equivalent concern» (as defined by REACH).

As part of the EU Risk Assessments, conservative exposure assessments and risk characterisations have already been completed and the Risk Assessment will be provided to the European Chemicals Agency, even though these are not required under REACH because DINP and DIDP are not dangerous according to Directive 67/548/EEC. This means significantly less work for users of these substances because additional exposure assessment and risk characterisation work is not required.

VALUE CHAIN: INCREASING UNDERSTANDING

ECPI is undertaking a process of dialogue with the soft-PVC value chain to support DINP and DIDP's successful passage through REACH. ECPI members are committed to helping all members of the value chain understand REACH, its impact and their own responsibilities under the legislation.

- Information about DINP and DIDP and REACH is available online at www.dinp-facts.com and www.didp-facts.com
- ECPI will provide information updates at regular intervals through communication, such as the ECPI newsletter INFORM and letters to interested stakeholders throughout the value chain
- ECPI is in contact with retailers and brand owners to help them to understand the status of DINP and DIDP under REACH, including the important point that DINP and DIDP will not be subject to Authorisation.

ECPI members working together on DINP and DIDP under REACH



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