DIDP Information

About DIDP

Diisodecyl phthalate (DIDP) is used to make polyvinyl chloride (PVC) soft and flexible. Among other uses, its chemical and physical properties make it particularly effective in the manufacture of electrical cords, vinyl upholstery for car interiors, and PVC flooring. It can also be used in sealing compounds, textile inks and anti-corrosion paints.

DIDP Has Unique Benefits and Uses

The unique properties of DIDP include low volatility both during processing and in vinyl products, which makes it effective in applications where products are exposed to high temperatures, making them more resistant to degradation. This is one of the reasons for its use in car interiors, including vinyl seat covers and interior trim. In addition, DIDP imparts both heat resistance and electrical resistivity, which makes DIDP effective in PVC products that are used to insulate electrical wiring. Additionally, because it is resistant to changing weather conditions, maintaining flexibility in cold conditions, and resistant to degradation under high temperatures, it is effective for many outdoor uses, including swimming pool liners, waterproofing for roofs, and footwear such as rain boots.

Weight of Scientific Evidence Supports the Safety of DIDP

DIDP has been thoroughly studied and reviewed by a number of government scientific agencies and regulatory bodies in the United States and Europe, including:

- **National Toxicology Program’s Center for the Evaluation of Risks to Human Reproduction (NTP-CERHR)** (concluded in 2003 that there was “minimal concern” regarding risk of developmental effects and “negligible concern” regarding reproductive effects from current exposure levels to DIDP).

- **European Chemicals Bureau** (DIDP has undergone a comprehensive risk assessment by the European Union (EU) under the Existing Substances Regulation. The European Chemicals Bureau Risk Assessment Report on DIDP concluded that most current uses of DIDP, including uses in PVC, polymers, anti-corrosion paint, anti-fouling paint, sealing compounds and textile inks, are not expected to pose a risk to human health or the environment. The risk assessment found that measures to limit risks should be implemented if DIDP were to be used in toys and childcare articles, but the U.S. and the EU have already restricted the use of DIDP in children’s toys that can be placed in a child’s mouth and child-care articles).

- **EU’s Regulation on Registration, Evaluation, Authorization and Restriction of Chemicals** (In early 2010, DIDP was one of the first substances registered under the European chemicals regulation known as REACH. It is not on the REACH candidate list, which means it can be placed on the European market without any additional authorization).

For more information, please contact

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