

Public consultation for solvents in consumer products

I. Substances

- Benzyl alcohol (CAS no: 100-51-6; EC no.: 202-859-9)
- 1,3-Dioxolane (CAS no.: 646-06-0; EC no.: 211-463-5)
- n-Hexane (CAS no.: 110-54-3; EC no.: 203-777-6)
- Tetrahydrofurane (THF); CAS no.: 109-99-9; EC no.: 203-726-8)
- Xylene (E.g. CAS no.: 95-47-6/EC no.: 292-422-2; CAS no.: 108-38-3; EC no.: 203-576-3; CAS no.: 106-42-3/EC no.: 203-396-5; CAS no.: 1330-20-7/EC no.: 215-535-7; EC: 905-588-0; EC no.: 905-562-9)



II. Reason for public consultation



Within the frame of the REACH regulation, the German Competent authority (DE CA) evaluates the uses of certain solvents in consumer products. Currently, solvent-related risks for consumers cannot be ruled out. The assessments made by the DE CA are based on common/general information on typical product characteristics. Detailed information about specific products and their applications are usually missing.

Therefore the DE CA is interested in common product features and characteristics in combination with information on the solvents listed above. The aim is to gain a better understanding of the variety of consumer products containing solvents on the market in order to enable a more realistic exposure estimation and risk assessment.

This consultation and questionnaire is aimed at gathering information on products containing the above mentioned solvents in pure or technical form, as UVCB or as impurity.

Note: In the case of xylenes, apart from the single isomers, also reaction mixtures are of interest.

The DE CA is particularly interested in an exchange with companies and stakeholders who are familiar with solvent-based consumer products. These include, in particular, formulators, product developers, end users as well as fabric manufacturers, importers, retailers, distributors/ dealers, associations, NGO's and interested third parties.

Your participation actively supports the protection of the consumer/ your clients and helps to avoid lengthy, formal procedures and unnecessary regulations but aids to initiate reasonable measures for consumer protection where appropriate.

III. Information on company/institute/organisation

Data subject rights: Access, rectification, erasure, blocking, right of revocation

By participating in this survey, personal data may be processed in terms of the General Data Protection Regulation of the European Union. "Personal data" is any piece of information that allows a natural person to be identified directly or indirectly, for example a name or a personified e-mail address.

"Processing" may mean, for example, the collection, recording and storing of these data.

There is no legal obligation whatsoever to grant such permission. Your permission is granted at your free discretion.

Pursuant to Article 15 GDPR, you have at any time the right to request comprehensive **information** on the stored personal data concerning you from the Federal Institute for Occupational Safety and Health. According to Article 16 et seq. GDPR, you may ask the Federal Institute for Occupational Safety and Health at any time to **rectify, erase and block** individual personal data.

According to Art. 7(3) GDPR, you furthermore have the right to **withdraw this consent at any time**. The withdrawal may be sent by post or by e-mail to the data controller named below:

Bundesanstalt für Arbeitsschutz und Arbeitsmedizin / Federal Institute for Occupational Safety and Health

Division 5: Federal Office for Chemicals

Postfach 17 02 02

44061 Dortmund

E-Mail: chemg@buaa.bund.de

You can contact our [Data Protection Officer](#) under the postal address above or by e-mail to bds@buaa.bund.de.

Should you be of the opinion that the BAuA does not process your data in accordance with applicable data protection regulations, you have the right to contact [The Federal Commissioner for Data Protection and Freedom of Information](#), Husarenstraße 30, 53117 Bonn

When exercising your rights, you will not incur any costs other than postage or transmission costs according to current base rates. Should you withdraw your consent, your personal data will be deleted immediately after receipt of the withdrawal notice. A withdrawal shall not affect the lawfulness of the processing of your data up until the time of the withdrawal.

Your personal data will be stored until the present survey has been fully evaluated and until no further questions may arise.

Consent may be withheld, with the consequence of only participating in a survey without the option for asking the individual participant specific follow-up questions. In this case, company information will have

to be provided.

PERMISSION FOR INFORMATION PURPOSES: I agree to the personal data I provide in the present survey, including my name and my e-mail address, to be collected, processed and stored for potential follow-up questions regarding this survey by the service provider of Bundesanstalt für Arbeitsschutz und Arbeitsmedizin (BAuA), namely Webropol Deutschland GmbH, and to these being subsequently stored in the database of the Federal Chemicals Office. *

Yes

No

Please insert your contact data.

Company/Institute/Organisation *

Surname *

Name *

E-Mail *

Are you member of one of the following associations?

A.I.S.E.

ATIEL

CEPE

CESIO

Concawe

ESIG

FEICA

Other (Please name)

No membership

Please indicate roughly the size of your company or association with regard to the number of employees.

< 50

- 50-99
- 100 - 199
- 200 - 499
- 500 - 1000
- > 1000

Can we contact you with follow up questions?

- Yes
- No

Are you interested in attending a meeting on specific consumer products?

- Yes
- No

IV. Questions concerning consumer protection

The following questions concern the above mentioned solvents benzyl alcohol, 1,3-dioxolane, n-hexane, tetrahydrofuran (THF) and different xylenes.

Please indicate your role concerning the shown solvents with respect to consumer products. Multiple choices are possible.

	Registrant	Manufacturer	Upstream formulator	End-use formulator	Retailer	Industry association	Importer	Otr
Benzyl alcohol	<input type="checkbox"/>							
1,3-dioxolane	<input type="checkbox"/>							
n-hexane	<input type="checkbox"/>							
Tetrahydrofuran	<input type="checkbox"/>							
Xylene	<input type="checkbox"/>							

Your clicked "Other" in the above matrix. Please indicate the solvent(s) and the role(s) here.

In which of the following product categories do you or your members use the solvents. Multiple choices are possible.

- PC1 - Adhesives, sealants;
- PC3 - Air care products;
- PC4 - Anti-freeze and de-icing products;
- PC9a - Coatings & paints, thinners, paint removers;
- PC9b - Filler, putties, plasters, modelling clay;
- PC9c - Finger paints;
- PC18 - Ink and toners;
- PC23 - Leather treatment products;
- PC28 - Perfumes and fragrances;
- PC31 - Polishes and wax blends;
- PC34 - Textile dyes, and impregnation products;
- PC35 - Washing and cleaning products

The given list of product categories is not a comprehensive list. Under the option "Other" you may indicate further product categories.

	PC1	PC3	PC4	PC9a	PC9b	PC9c	PC18	PC23	PC28	PC31	PC34	PC35	Otr
Benzyl alcohol	<input type="checkbox"/>												
1,3-dioxolane	<input type="checkbox"/>												
n-hexane	<input type="checkbox"/>												
Tetrahydrofurane	<input type="checkbox"/>												
Xylene	<input type="checkbox"/>												

Your clicked 'Other' under product category in the above matrix. Please indicate the solvent and the product category here.

In the following we would like to ask you to specify some of your selected consumer uses.

PC1 - Adhesive and sealants

You chose **PC1 - Adhesive and sealants**.

Please specify your consumer related use of the solvent(s) for **adhesives and sealants** in the following table. Please indicate the name of the product and the respective solvent, concentration ranges of the solvent, intended use, types of packaging, application/use.

You can download the table under the following link. Please load it up again below.

[Table PC1 - Adhesives and sealants](#)

Please load up the completed table PC1 - Adhesives and sealants here. And you can also upload further information.

Please indicate three organic solvents - irrespective of those listed here - which have in your experience the highest concentration in the product group of adhesives and sealants.

PC3 - Air care products

You chose **PC3 - Air care products**

Please specify your consumer related use of the solvent(s) for **air care products** in the following table. Please indicate the name of the product and the respective solvent, concentration ranges of the solvent, intended use, types of packaging, application/use.

You can download the table under the following link. Please load it up again below.

[Table PC3 - Air care products](#)

Please load up the completed table PC3 - Air care products here. And you can also upload further information.

Please indicate three organic solvents - irrespective of those listed here - which have in your experience the highest concentration in the product group of air care products.

PC9a - Coatings, paints, thinners and removers

You chose PC9a - Coatings, paints, thinners and removers

Please specify your consumer related use of the solvent(s) for **coatings, paints, thinners and removers** in the following table. Please indicate the name of the product and the respective solvent, concentration ranges of the solvent, intended use, types of packaging, application/use.

You can download the table under the following link. Please load it up again below.

[Table PC9a Coatings, paints, thinners and removers](#)

Please load up the completed table PC9 - Coatings, paints, thinners and removers here. And you can also upload further information.

Please indicate three organic solvents - irrespective of those listed here - which have in your experience the highest concentration in the product group of coatings, paints, thinners and removers.

PC31 - Polishes and wax blends

You chose PC31 - Polishes and wax blends

Please specify your consumer related use of the solvent(s) for **polishes and wax blends** in the following table. Please indicate the name of the product and the respective solvent, concentration ranges of the solvent, intended use, types of packaging, application/use.

You can download the table under the following link. Please load it up again below.

[Table PC31 - Polishes and wax blends](#)

Please load up the completed table PC31 - Polishes and wax blends here. And you can also upload further information.

Please indicate three organic solvents - irrespective of those listed here - which have in your experience the highest concentration in the product group of polishes and wax blends.

PC35 - Washing and cleaning products

You chose PC35 - Washing and cleaning products

Please specify your consumer related use of the solvent(s) for **washing and cleaning products** in the following table. Please indicate the name of the product and the respective solvent, concentration ranges of the solvent, intended use, types of packaging, application/use.

You can download the table under the following link. Please load it up again below.

[Table PC35 Washing and cleaning products](#)

Please load up the completed table PC35 - Washing and cleaning products here. And you can also upload further information.

Please indicate three organic solvents - irrespective of those listed here - which have in your experience the highest concentration in the product group of washing and cleaning products.

How do you become aware of problematic consumer products?

- Poison information centers
- Consumer enquiries

Media

Other (please specify)

Do you have any additional comments on the above question?

How many safety data sheets do you have for the above mentioned solvents in consumer products?

- None
- < 10
- 11-100
- 101-500
- 501-1000
- > 1000

Is there anything else you would like to let us know?

Thank you for your contribution up to this point!

We would like to add some questions on [solvents and worker protection](#). Are you interested? *

- Yes
- No

V. Questions concerning worker protection

In which industrial or commercial products/preparations are the substances currently used?

In which concentrations are the substances used in products/preparations and with which methods (e.g. painting, spraying) is the application carried out?

What quantities of products are used (per day)?

Do you have measurement data on inhalative and/or dermal exposure to substances for industrial or commercial use? Do you have information on the frequency and duration of exposure to the substances?

Do you have data on size of the exposed collective of workers (if possible differentiated according to industrial and commercial sector)?

Do you have information on cases of occupational diseases of health and safety problems associated with exposure to the substances?

Which substances substitute benzyl alcohol, 1,3-dioxolane, n-hexane, THF, xylene and /or which technical possibilities are known to you to replace the substance?

Which personal protection measures (skin protection, respiratory protection) are implemented when n-hexane is used?

In case you want to provide any other documents or information it is possible here.

Thank You for Your participation!

Please forward this questionnaire to any other actor with knowledge about solvent containing consumer products.