

Product Name: _____
Executive: _____
File: _____

MEETING LOG

DATE : August 11 at 2:00 - 4:00 PM

PLACE : CPSC Headquarters, Room 711, Bethesda, MD

ATTENDEES: Laureen Burton (CPSC/HSHE), Bob Franklin (CPSC/ECSS), Lou Nudy (CMA/ARCO), Kathy Rosica (CMA), Val Schaeffer (CPSC/HSHE), John Walker (EPA/ITC), Nick Wakeman (PSL)

SUBJECT: Propylene Glycol Ethers

BACKGROUND: The Interagency Testing Committee (ITC) recommended a group of 13 propylene glycol ethers and esters be placed on its priority testing list at the urging of CPSC in order to obtain information on their production, use and exposure as well as unpublished health and safety data. This information would support the FY 95 project on glycol ethers. In order to respond to the ITC recommendation, the Chemical Manufacturers Association (CMA) developed a propylene glycol ethers panel made up of the major manufacturers of this chemical class. The CMA panel requested a meeting with ITC and CPSC to discuss concerns about the identity of the individual propylene glycol ethers and esters for which information was being requested.

DISCUSSION: CMA explained that there was confusion among the manufacturers regarding exactly what combination of individual isomers, commercial product and generic mixtures of propylene glycol ethers that ITC/CPSC was interested in. Each of the propylene glycol ethers and esters is commercially produced as predominantly the α isomer but contains a small amount (generally around 5%) of the β isomer. At the same time, different companies report data on these products under different CAS (Chemical Abstract Service) numbers designated for either the pure α isomer or the generic mixture. ITC and CPSC clarified that information on the different propylene glycol ethers and esters should be reported as the commercially produced and sold forms under a uniform and agreed-upon set of CAS numbers.

CMA also pointed out that some of the chemicals recommended by ITC were not structurally considered propylene glycol ethers and esters and, therefore its propylene glycol ethers panel could not provide information on these substances. However, CMA did offer their assistance in locating domestic manufacturers of these chemicals. ITC could then contact these companies at their discretion.

All parties agreed that ITC would prepare a revised list of propylene glycol ethers and esters for which CMA would provide information on production volume, percentage of production devoted to the various consumer product uses, the approximate weight fraction range of the chemical present in the different types of products, and a date in which the information can be supplied.