

Brussels, 15 September 2005

Progress on EU Scientific Assessment of TBBPA

Final studies on environment assessment underway
Health assessment already concluded with no risk

EU Member State technical experts reviewed on 13 September a draft environment assessment being carried out for the brominated flame retardant TBBPA.

This assessment is being carried out by the UK on behalf of the EU under the EU Existing Substances Regulation. At the meeting it was agreed that, following completion of a new set of studies, the assessment should be largely concluded at the technical experts' meeting in March 2006. Already, an EU human health assessment has been completed for TBBPA for which conclusions indicate no need for risk reduction measures.

TBBPA is a reactive brominated flame retardant whose major use is in the printed wiring boards of >90% of today's electrical and electronic products.