

9 April 2009

NO NATIONAL RESTRICTIONS PROPOSED BY SWEDISH GOVERNMENT AGENCY ON DECA-BDE

On 31 March 2009, the Swedish Chemicals Inspectorate (KemI) presented a report on the brominated flame retardant Deca-BDE. In the summary conclusions to the report, KemI recommends not to pursue any national restrictions. Instead, KemI proposes that Swedish government actions on Deca-BDE be focused on participating in the EU-level discussions on Deca-BDE's risk assessment, encouraging substitution in the market and following the scientific understanding of Deca-BDE and the environment.

Willem Hofland, EBFRIIP Chair stated "Pending a full review of KemI's report, we welcome its conclusion to cooperate on Deca-BDE within REACH, the EU process of chemicals management".

A European Union risk assessment, published in May 2008^{1 2}, was concluded on the basis of no need for restricting Deca-BDE in its applications. It was agreed that outstanding concerns be addressed by one final toxicity study and two extensive monitoring programmes. Industry is working with the European risk assessment authorities in the implementation and completion of this scientific research.

For more information please see the report:

http://www.kemi.se/upload/Trycksaker/Pdf/Rapporter/Rapport1_09_DekaBDE.pdf

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¹<http://www.ebfrip.org/uploads/Press/documents/EBFRIP%20statement%20Deca-BDE%20OJ%20publication%2029052008.pdf>

²<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:C:2008:131:0007:0012:EN:PDF>