

31 May 2006

**EU Reviews Programmes on Deca-BDE
following on from Concluded Risk Assessment**

As part of a standard annual review, national officials from the European Union assessed progress on Deca-BDE in a meeting on 24 May in Vienna. The result of the meeting is that the risk assessment remains as concluded in 2004 with no identified environmental or health risk and consequently no need for risk reduction measures.

At the meeting, there was significant support for industry's voluntary emissions reduction programme and recognition of progress achieved so far on ongoing Deca-BDE monitoring and research programmes mandated by the EU. It was confirmed that, as is the normal procedure with EU risk assessments, any new scientific data will be taken into account in a UK-led review, to be carried out towards the end of the year. Industry status reports on ongoing programmes are attached for information.