



Chemical Issues Work Group

September 8, 2011

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Suppliers Partnership for the Environment (SP)



Chemical Issues Workgroup Overview

- Work group formed in 2006
 - Follow emerging chemical regulations
 - Develop strategic technical solutions
 - Share best practices
- Material Assessment Strategy (MAS)
 - Begun in 2007
 - Goal – develop a common health and environmental hazard, exposure and risk screening process for chemicals in vehicle parts/processes
 - Contracted Science Strategies to develop process



Drivers: Regulatory Action

REACH (EU Chemicals Directive)

- Requires companies to process risk assessments on many more of their products, including articles
- Other REACH-like regulations emerging

California Green Chemicals Rule and Other State Product Chemicals Regulations (US)

- Requires flexible and efficient systems to respond to a range of stakeholders reporting requirements

Toxic Substance Control Act (US)

- Bills for reauthorization introduced in 2010 and again in 2011



Challenges

Assessment of articles* represents a new paradigm for most companies in the auto sector and elsewhere.

- Manufacturers of articles are not chemical companies
- Limited or no toxicological expertise
- They are used to considering chemicals in formulations, but not articles

*US OSHA and US EPA define “articles” as an object that during production is given a special shape, surface or design which determines its function to a greater degree than its chemical composition.



Importance of MAS Process

- Address emerging chemical regulations and consumer concerns
 - Need for common process to address requirements for chemicals in articles
- Reduce business risk and cost
 - Add value to existing chemical information on parts
 - Common, shared process across OEMs and suppliers
- Process for addressing chemicals within Sustainability programs



SP MAS Approach

- Phase 1 – Principles and Framework
- Phase 2 – Automotive interiors
- Phase 3 – Environmental exposures from friction materials and wear debris
- Phase 4 – End-of-life vehicle considerations



Current Activities

- Following regulatory activities
 - TSCA
 - California Safer Consumer Products Regulation drafts
- Completing Phase 3 of MAS
- Re-visiting MAS Principles
 - Need for company “Chemicals Policy”