



Washington *Watch*

FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE

Senate Introduces New Cash for Caulkers Bill

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The Home Star Energy Retrofit Act of 2010 (S.3177), also known as “Cash for Caulkers,” has been reintroduced in the Senate to replace legislation of the same name (S.3434) that stalled after being referred to the Senate Finance Committee.

The new legislation still seeks to establish a homeowner energy efficiency incentive program as advocated by President Obama. The bill includes \$5 billion in homeowner

rebates through a two-tiered retrofit program offering homeowners up to \$3,000 in reimbursements for upgrades such as adding insulation, re-caulking or installing energy-efficient appliances.

A House version of the bill (HR 5019) was approved earlier this spring.

REGULATORY

Federal Advisory Committee Backs EPA Conclusion on TCE as Human Carcinogen

Adhesive manufacturers who have substituted for trichloroethylene (TCE) should be pleased with their decision. Recently, a federal advisory committee endorsed the EPA's preliminary conclusions that TCE is carcinogenic to humans by all routes of exposure and could damage the central nervous system.

The Trichloroethylene Review

Panel, established under the EPA's Science Advisory Board, reviewed the Agency's more than 1,000-page draft evaluation of health effects of TCE and doses at which effects could occur.

The advisory committee's endorsement will allow the EPA to move toward issuing its first update of its health assessment of the solvent in 25 years. In 1987, it attempted to

update the cancer risk classification for TCE, but at that time, Science Advisory Board disagreed with the recommendation that TCE be classified as a probable human carcinogen, which prompted the EPA to withdraw TCE from its database in 1989.

REGULATORY (continued)

EPA Takes Its Own Approach on TSCA

While the push for new Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) legislation continues to percolate in Congress, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is taking its own path to increasing oversight of chemicals. Recently, the agency moved to increase public access to information on chemicals by adding more than 6,300 chemicals and 3,800 facilities regulated under TSCA to a public database called Envirofacts.

Envirofacts (<http://www.epa.gov/enviro/>) offers a single point of access on the Internet for comprehensive information about chemical facilities, including:

- facility name and address;
- aerial image of the facility and the surrounding area;
- map location of the facility; and
- links to other information on the facility, such as the EPA's inspections and compliance reports (available through its ECHO database).

On another front, EPA Assistant Administrator Stephen Owens recently sent a letter to several associations representing raw material and chemical manufacturers urging them to encourage their member companies to reduce confidential business information (CBI) claims for future TSCA filings, while also asking them to review older CBI claims to identify any materials that should no longer be considered confidential.

ASC Offers TSCA Webinar on July 14; Launches TSCA Webpage

With TSCA reform gaining momentum in Congress, the ASC has developed a [TSCA Legislative Reform webinar](#) to thoroughly educate ASC members about the significant changes that are proposed and what those changes mean for member companies.

Mark Duvall, TSCA expert and attorney at Beveridge & Diamond, P.C., one of Washington's leading environmental law firms, will present a comprehensive legislative update on July 14 at 10:00 a.m. (EDT).

Participants will better understand how these new legislative initiatives are designed to address reform and learn insights into the concerns Congress has with the present system of chemical testing in the United States. Mr. Duvall will also field questions about TSCA concerns after the presentation.

To assist ASC members in fully understanding an issue that could greatly impact chemical manufacturers/importers and companies processing and formulating products, the ASC has created a [TSCA page on its Government Relations section of the website](#), where it has compiled the latest documents related to TSCA in one convenient place. This site will be continually updated, so check it often. Member login is required.

Expanded EHS Programming at the ASC Fall Convention in Cincinnati

Looking for the latest information on TSCA, REACH, a Global Harmonized System for Labeling and California's Green Chemistry Initiative to eliminate toxic chemicals from consumer products?

The ASC will feature a **Technical/Government Regulations Education Track** at the [ASC 2010 Fall Convention & EXPO](#). Practical sessions will be held throughout the three-day event, but on Monday, October 4, a full afternoon of pro-

gramming is scheduled. This particular session will provide attendees with the latest information on the issues and environmental policy decisions that will affect businesses for the next decade.

Scheduled speakers include Mark Duvall, an attorney with Beveridge & Diamond, providing the latest insights on TSCA reform; Jeff Margulies of Fulbright & Jaworski, who will discuss what you should know about REACH as November's initial

compliance deadline nears; and Patricia Beattie of Arcalis Scientific, who will look at how California is planning eliminate toxic chemical from consumer products.

These sessions are specifically designed for EH&S professionals, senior executives and individuals who focus on technical requirements and regulatory conformance. [Register now and save \\$100.](#)

INTERNATIONAL

EU Agency Lists Chemicals Schedule for Registration Under REACH

Do you know which chemicals are expected to be “green-lighted” by the first REACH deadline in November?

In mid April, the European Chemical Agency (ECHA) published a list of 4,415 substances that are expected to be registered and in compliance with the European Union’s registration, evaluation authorization of chemicals (REACH) legislation by the November 30 deadline.

The list is available at: http://echa.europa.eu/chem_data/list_registration_2010_en.asp.

The list was compiled from information supplied by the companies about their plans to register substances and will be periodically updated. Companies using substances not on the list are being advised to contact suppliers to find out if those companies intend to register the products in question.

November 30 is the first major deadline under REACH and applies to substances manufactured in, or imported into, the European Union in annual volumes of 1,000 metric tons or more. REACH also applies to some toxic substances at lower volumes.

Canada Designates Six Chemicals as Toxic including TDI

Environment Canada and Health Canada published a final order designating six chemicals, including toluene diisocyanate as toxic under its Environmental Protection Act. Adding the six chemicals to the list of toxic substances included in Schedule I of the act allows the government to develop regulations, guidelines or codes of practice to protect the environment from their uses (<http://canadagazette.gc.ca/rp-pr/p2/2010/2010-05-12/html/sor-dors98-eng.html>).

Utilized in the production of polyurethane foam, comments received on TDI suggested that the conclusion that TDI was a carcinogen was not warranted, given that the predominant exposure to Canadians was inhalation and the positive cancer bioassays were via the oral route. Health Canada modified its screening assessment of TDI to fully consider route-specific effects and concluded the evidence still supported the designation.

The other substances included in the designation included; methyloxirane; ethyloxirane; naphthalene; 1,2 benzenediol and 1,4 benzenediol.



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The Adhesive and Sealant Council, Inc. (ASC) is a North American trade association dedicated to representing the adhesives and sealants industry. Incorporated in 1958, ASC is bound by the collective efforts of its members, and strives to improve the industry operating environment and strengthen its member companies. ASC members represent more than 75% of the U.S. industry. The Council is comprised of 110 adhesive and sealant manufacturers, raw material and equipment suppliers, and industry consultants.

If you have any questions regarding any of these issues, contact

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