September 27, 2012

Dr. Michael Babich  
Directorate for Health Sciences  
U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission  
4330 East-West Highway, Suite 600  
Bethesda, MD 20814

Dear Dr. Babich:

On behalf of the High Phthalates Panel of the American Chemistry Council I am writing to bring your attention to the recently finalized Priority Existing Chemical Assessment Report (PEC No. 35) on diisononyl phthalate (DINP) completed under the National Industrial Chemicals Notification and Assessment Scheme (NICNAS) of the Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing. The report concludes that “[c]urrent risk estimates do not indicate a health concern from exposure of children to DINP in toys and child care articles even at the highest (reasonable worst case) exposure scenario considered.”

Furthermore, the report stated that “[r]isks from cumulative exposure of children to DINP in toys and child-care articles with or without DEHP at maximum 1% together with co-exposure to DEP in cosmetics at maximum 0.5% in body lotions are considered low, as cumulative MOEs for the three critical health effects identified [liver and kidney toxicity, and reproductive/developmental effects] are all above 100[, which indicate an adequate safety margin.” “An MOE of greater than 100 in risk characterisation is usually regarded as an indication of low concern as it encompasses the conservative default uncertainty factors of 10 each for intraspecies and interspecies variability.”

There are currently no restrictions on the use of DINP in toys and child care articles in Australia. The publication of the final report revokes the declaration of DINP as a priority existing chemical; therefore, manufacturers and importers wishing to introduce the chemical in the future need not apply for assessment. The final assessment report is available at:  
This report should be of great interest to the Chronic Hazard Advisory Panel (CHAP) on Phthalates as it completes its review, and it should be of great interest to the CPSC staff reviewing the work of the CHAP and preparing recommendations for the Commission. If you require further information, please do not hesitate to contact me at (202) 249-6711 or eileen_conneely@americanchemistry.com.

Very truly yours,

Eileen Conneely

Eileen Conneely  
Manager, High Phthalates Panel  
Director, Chemical Products and Technology Division

cc:
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