

Polytopics

Quarter 3 - 2006

In this issue:

TDI Info.....	1
New Members.....	1
President's Msg.....	2
Annual Meeting	2
Chem. Security	3
Logo Usage	4
Member News.....	5-6

Upcoming Events:

2007 Annual Meeting & Supplier Showcase

April 15-17, 2007

Harrah's

Las Vegas, NV

Board Meetings
on the 14th & 18th

Polyurethane Manufacturers Association (PMA)

6737 W. Washington St.
Suite 1420
Milwaukee, WI 53214
Ph: 414-431-3094
Fax: 414-276-7704
info@pmahome.org
www.pmahome.org

Proposed TDI Occupational Exposure Standards

by Donald P. Gallo, Esq., P.E.
Reinhart Boerner Van Deuren s.c.

In January 2006, the American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists ("ACGIH") issued a Notice of Intended Change ("NIC") that would result in significant reductions in Threshold Limit Values ("TLV") for TDI. Under the NIC, the 8-hour time-weighted average ("TWA") for TDI would be lowered from 5 ppb to 1 ppb, and the short-term exposure limit ("STEL") would be lowered from 20 ppb to 3 ppb.

ACGIH is expected to discuss the adoption and ratification of the NIC for TDI at its annual meeting this fall. These changes, if adopted, will present considerable compliance difficulties to the membership of the PMA. While currently available direct-reading instrument technology (e.g., badges) allows members to rapidly measure compliance with the current TWA and STEL, this technology will not be able to reliably monitor compliance with either of the proposed TWA or STEL concentrations. The only way to meet the proposed TWA and STEL will be through sampling methods that require laboratory analysis, which do not provide for real-time field measurement.

PMA provided comments last month questioning the validity of the proposed changes given the lack of any new data or studies supporting the changes. PMA also objected to the NIC because of the technical difficulty that members would have in measuring for compliance with the proposed standards, i.e., the problem of currently unavailable direct-reading badges not working at the proposed lower standards.

ACGIH is expected to take final action on the NIC later this fall. PMA will continue to monitor the status of the NIC and keep members informed of any developments.

Welcome New & Returning PMA Members:

SJO Brands

James Sjoberg
972-878-0577
jim@sjobrand.com

T.D. Williamson

Terry Hudson
918-447-5429
terry.hudson@tdwilliamson.com