

The Safety Assessment of Substances used in Printing Inks for Food Contact Materials

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EuPIA in a Nutshell



- European Printing Ink Association
- Founded in 2003
- Operates under the umbrella of CEPE, the European Council of the Paint, Printing Ink and Artists' Colours Industry
- Represents > 80 manufacturers of printing inks and varnishes in > 160 manufacturing sites
- Represents > 90% of ink sales in Europe (2016: 962,000 tons; 3.05 billion €)
- Employs ~ 12,000 people
- Membership: Every member of a National Association representing the printing ink industry is automatically a member of EuPIA (dual membership principle)

What are Printing Inks?



- a. Mixtures of colourants with other substances which are applied on materials to form a graphic or decorative design together with
- b. Other coloured or uncoloured overprint varnishes/ coatings or primers which are normally applied in combination with a) in order to enable the printed design to achieve specific functions such as ink adhesion, rub resistance, gloss, slip/friction properties

Printing inks **do not include** coatings which are applied with the prime objective of enabling the material or article to achieve a technical function such as heat sealing, barrier, corrosion resistance, as opposed to a graphic effect, even though they may be coloured.

Some Printing Ink Specific Facts



- High number of substances are needed in printing inks
 - Many of those substances are not used in Plastic Materials and therefore not fully evaluated and part of the Union list
- Printing inks are usually applied on the non-food contact side of an FCM, however migration of ink film ingredients may happen though the food contact layer.
- Substance transfer may also occur via set-off from the printed outer side to the food contact surface in the stack or the reel

Some Printing Ink Specific Facts



- Analytical methods are not available to demonstrate no migration at LOD of 10ppb for many substances
- Migration methods for non-plastic materials are not harmonised. Also some migration methods for plastic materials are unsuitable and give misleading results (Tenax @ 60 °C)
- The ink industry and the printing industry are very diverse:
 - Few very large companies and many medium or very small enterprises
 - Also small and medium size companies must be able to fulfill the legal and/or industry regulations

European Specific Measure for pFCM

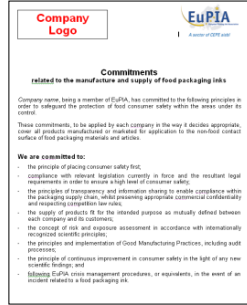


- In the absence of European harmonized rules for inks for food contact materials EuPIA has developed their own guidance.
- EuPIA is not in favour of national regulatory initiatives
- EuPIA welcomes DG SANTE's intention to issue a specific measure on printed food contact materials, and offers support in its development.

Key EuPIA Concepts



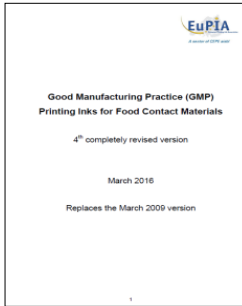
EuPIA Exclusion Policy



EuPIA members Self Commitments



EuPIA Suitability List of Photo-Initiators



EuPIA GMP



EuPIA Guidance for RA of NIAS/NLS



Statement of Composition



- Applies to all types of printing inks for all types of printing processes for all types of applications
- For 20 years EuPIA's **Exclusion List for Printing Inks and Related Products** has been an established tool to enhance both safety and the image of the printing ink industry
- In September 2015 it was replaced by the **EuPIA Exclusion Policy** for Printing Inks and Related Products
- By default, **highly hazardous** raw materials, including those known to be **carcinogenic, mutagenic or toxic for reproduction**, are **not permitted** for use.



- **The Exclusion Policy uses the CLP classification rules as criteria**

GROUP A

Acute Toxicity Cat. 1 & 2 [H300, H310, H330]

Acute Toxicity Cat. 3 (inhalation)
[H331]

Carcinogen or Mutagen Cat. 1A & 1B
[H350, H340]

Toxic to Reproduction Cat. 1A & 1B [H360]
(non-threshold substances)

STOT Single Exposure Cat. 1 [H370]

GROUP B

Acute Toxicity Cat. 3 (oral, dermal)
[H301, H311]

Toxic to Reproduction Cat. 1A & 1B [H360]
(if threshold exists)

STOT Repeated Exposure Cat. 1 [H372]

- **Exemption from substitution** can be granted where a material cannot be replaced in the short term for a specific application:

- **Group A** with the explicit approval of EuPIA Technical Committee
(exemptions listed in Annex 2 of Policy)
- **Group B** self-assessment of safe use by member company
- In both cases members must report to EuPIA secretariat, who monitor application of procedure

Step 1: Raw Material Selection



- Key to know the ingredients in the ink raw materials.

Raw Material Compliance Questionnaire

- Standard proposal for EuPIA members for **information request from raw material suppliers**
- Member companies can use the proposed documents or add more questions
- The information received from suppliers, sometimes together with own analytical analyses is the basis for our safety assessment and provision of further information in the supply chain.

Step 2: Raw Material Selection

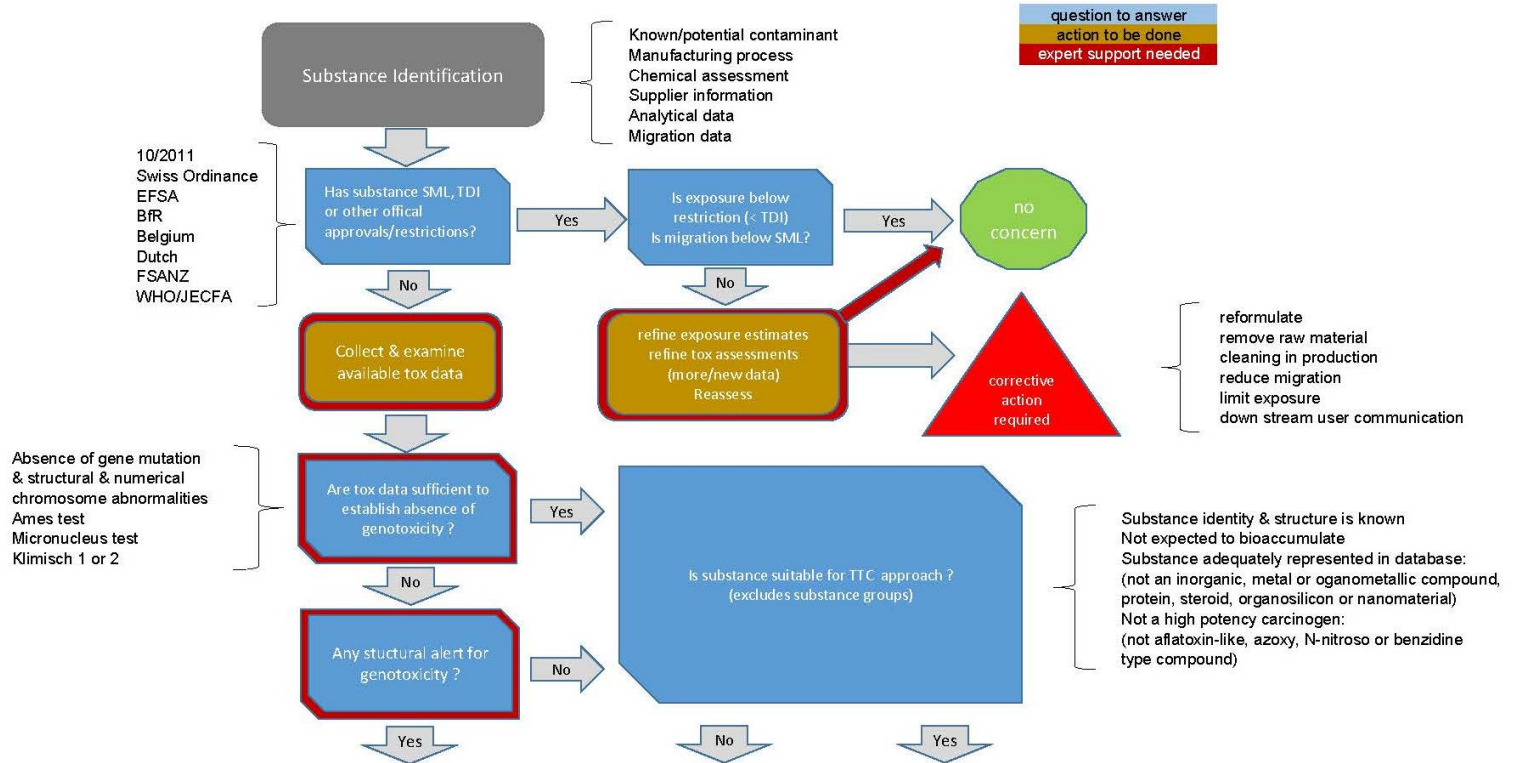


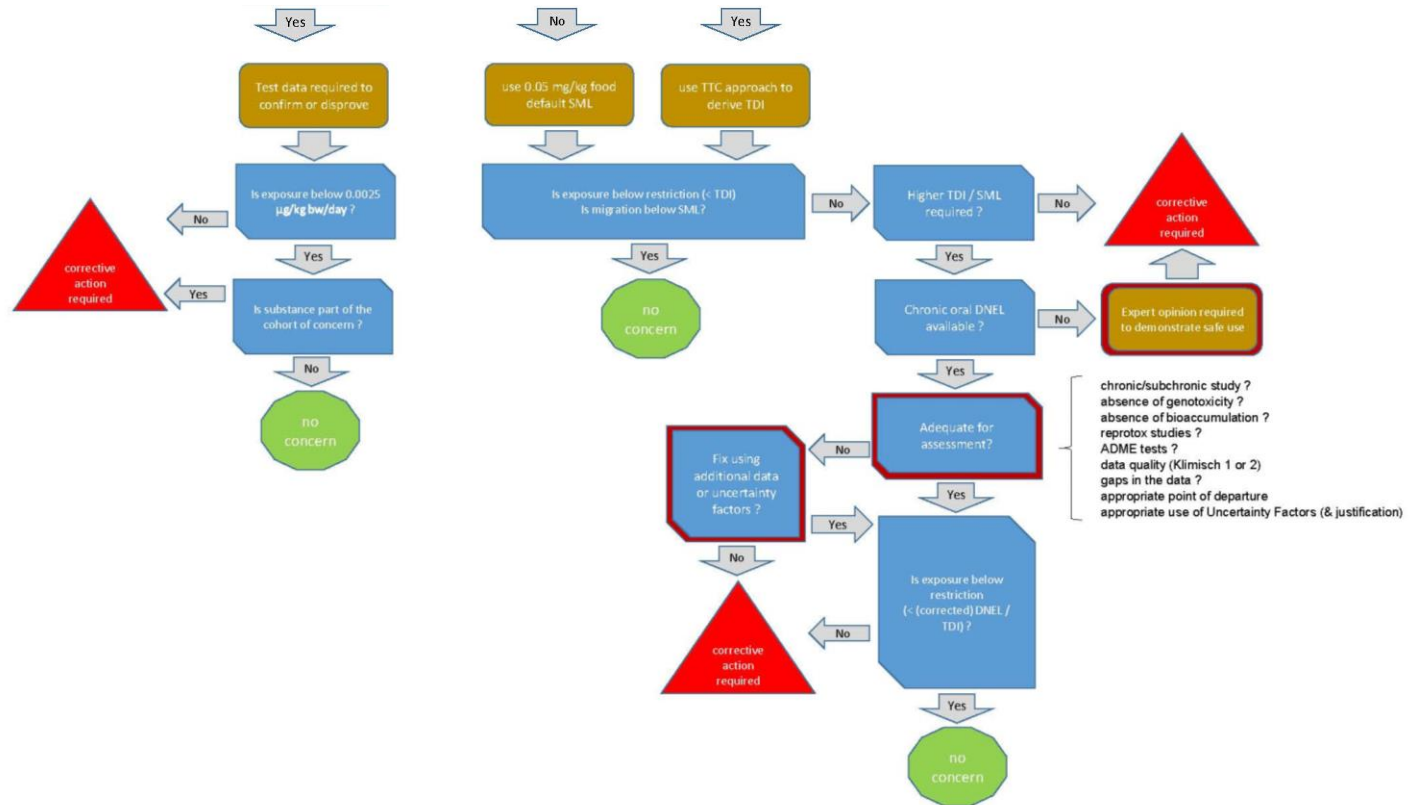
- **Used (intentionally added) substances** must
 1. Comply with the Exclusion Policy
 2. Should be officially listed
 - as food additive, or
 - as substance in the Union List, or
 - as ink ingredient according to the Swiss Ordinance, or
 - in other national substance lists (BfR, Warenwet ...)

- **NIAS and non-listed substances**
 - Risk assessment should be done using the EuPIA guidance, which follows the principles of Art 19 of the Plastic Regulation

- EuPIA developed the „**EuPIA Guidance for Risk Assessment of NIAS and NLS in Printing Inks for Food Contact Materials**”, 2017
- **Hazard Identification** in 3 steps:
 1. Fully evaluated substances
 - SML values from Union list, Swiss Ordinance or evaluations of MS authorities
 2. Self derived TDI or SML values based on literature Tox data (for example REACH)
 - Derived from NOAEL, DNEL^{long term oral-general population}, TDI Data
 - Studies must be of sufficient quality (Klimisch Score I or II)
 - Assessment Factor of 10 x 10 as minimum
 3. Self derived TDI or SML values based on TTC concept
 - Exclude genotoxic substances
 - Cramer Class I, II or III with respective Exposure Limits
 - ToxTree as proposed model

- **Exposure Identification**
 1. EU std. cube model if appropriate
 - Worst case calculation
 - Modelling
 - testing
 2. EFSA Food Consumption database (more realistic consumption data)
 3. FACET (consumption plus packaging information)







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