

MassCOSH

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Union Survey for: TURI

Five Chemical Study on Safer Alternatives

Please review the *5 Chemical Uses Chart*. Let us know if your members work with these chemicals. We want your local union to have the information from this study to know how safer alternatives could be used in your workplace.

Labor won a groundbreaking legislative victory summer 2005 requiring the state to provide information on replacing toxic chemicals with safer alternatives for 5 toxic chemicals. The Mass AFL-CIO and the Labor Advisory Committee for the statewide Alliance for a Healthy Tomorrow (www.healthytomorrow.org) fought hard to reverse the Romney veto on this study. The 5 Chemical Study is just the first step in changing the way we approach eliminating chemical hazards in our workplace and communities.

The Toxics Use Reduction Institute at University of Massachusetts Lowell is in the process of assessing safer alternatives for specific uses (see chart on other side) of five toxic chemicals. The study will look at the technical and economic feasibility of using the safer alternatives and provide a comparison of the environmental, health and safety characteristics as they apply to workers, consumers and the environment.

- lead
- formaldehyde,
- perchloroethylene,
- hexavalent chromium, and
- di-(2 ethylhexyl)phthalate (DEHP).

For more information on these chemicals go to: <http://www.turi.org/content/content/view/full/2882/>

Please contact Tolle Graham at MassCOSH for more information. 617-825-7233 x19, tolle.graham@masscosh.org

MassCOSH Survey

Are you exposed to these chemicals at your workplace?

Yes*	Chemicals	High Priority Uses for the TURI Study
	Perchloroethylene "Perc"	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Garment Cleaning • Automotive aerosols (brake and engine cleaners) • Vapor degreasing
	Formaldehyde	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adhesives/resins for particle board wood products • Barber/beauty sanitizers • School laboratory specimen fixation and preservation
	DEHP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medical devices: bag/sheet, tubing applications • Resilient flooring
	Lead	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PVC heat stabilizers for wire and cable coatings • Weighting: wheel weights and fishing tackle • Ammunition used at shooting ranges
	Hexavalent Chromium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decorative chrome electroplating • Hard chrome electroplating • Zinc galvanized steel passivation

*** If you use one of these chemicals for this specific use, we would like you to look at the list of safer alternatives that TURI has identified.**

Please complete this short survey:

Name and Union: _____

_____ Are you familiar with or have you used any of the alternatives for this chemical?

_____ Would you be interested in having information about substituting a safer alternative to this chemical?

_____ Are there other chemicals that your local would be interested in discussing strategies for using safer alternatives?

What are they? _____

How can we best contact you to discuss this? _____

Thank you. Tolle Graham, MassCOSH, 617-825-7233 x19,
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