



Packaging ISSUE

October 2014

EuPC participation in the Packaging Chain Forum: an update

More than 50 representatives of the packaging industry discussed and debated the circular economy package of the EC during the Packaging Chain Forum meeting on October 6th 2014.

Hot topics on the agenda:

The preliminary results of the EUROOPEN's impact assessment on the new proposed calculation method & EUROOPEN's 4 key concerns and recommendations regarding the EC legislative proposal:

1. Remove potentially unlimited costs on producers
2. Clarify the meaning and impacts of the new proposed calculation method on existing recycling rates before setting new targets:
3. Refrain from setting mandatory national packaging design requirements which undermine the Internal Market
4. Ensure delegated acts are used only for non-essential elements

As a next step, EUROOPEN will draft a 1 page common industry position, reflecting the 4 concerns/principles discussed and broadly supported during the meeting. A draft will soon be shared asking for support. Also raised by many PCF participants, a common industry position would be instrumental to maximise the effectiveness of each of our European and national individual advocacy efforts towards the European Parliament and the Council of the EU/national governments.

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MedPharmPlast
A sector group of EuPC

SAVE THE DATE !

MedPharmPlast Europe workshop

3 December 2014

On December 3rd 2014, leaders and experts from the whole medical devices and pharmaceutical packaging supply chain will meet in Brussels for the second workshop of **MedPharmPlast** Europe. Following up on the success of **MedPharmPlast** Europe last information event in June

this year, the upcoming workshop focuses on European legislation and its impact on the medical devices and pharmaceutical packaging industries.

High-level speakers from these industry sectors will give an overview of the regulatory challenges they are facing including potential bans on key substances used in the production. Among others, the presentations will address the latest developments in the European legislation including the much discussed Amendment 355, the latest insights on substances like DEHP or Bisphenol A as well as an update on the Unique Device Identification tool. Next to these presentations, there is also time scheduled for panel discussions and network sessions.

The **MedPharmPlast** workshop is open to everyone involved or interested in the medical devices and pharmaceutical packaging supply chain. If you would like to register for the event or receive more detailed information on it, please contact erik.hendriks@medpharmplasteurope.org or visit the website www.medpharmplasteurope.org.

Plastic carrier bags

The first unofficial trilogue meetings on the plastic carrier bags legislative proposal took place on October 14th 2014. Initial news appears to indicate that the Council is not prepared to accept the majority of the European Parliament's position on plastic carrier bags, following the Auken Report adoption by plenary in April 2014. The Italian presidency of the Council of the EU is pushing to have the first official trilogue meeting before the end of October. It remains to be seen whether this will happen. Following the first official trilogue, **EuPC** will be able to learn more on the timeframe. **EuPC** continues to discuss with EU28 Member States. More info: Padraig.nolan@eupc.org

STAFF UPDATE: Eva Schneider joins PCE

We are pleased to welcome Eva Schneider in our team. She'll be replacing Ruth Colado who decided to move on and look for other challenges in her professional life. Eva is 27 years old and comes from the northern part of Bavaria, Germany. She finished her Bachelor study in Media and Communication Science with a focus on Persuasive Communication at the University Duisburg-Essen in Germany. During that time, she also completed internships and jobs at different media outlets and a marketing research institution. After a subsequent ten months journey through Asia and Australia, she started her Research Master study in Political Communication at the University of Amsterdam. Following her graduation, she worked as a trainee in the Public Relations Unit of the Council of the EU and afterwards joined our team at Polymer Comply Europe as Junior Communications executive. In this position, she takes care of communication activities for different associations like Petcore Europe or MedPharmPlast Europe as well as for European projects such as Polymark or SlipSafe.

New European Commission following European Parliament hearings and plenary vote

Following the presentation of President-elect Jean Claude Juncker's proposed college of Commissioners on Sept. 10th 2014, all but one Commissioner-designates made it passed the initial Committee hearings by the European Parliament. Slovenia's Alenka Bratušek was voted against by 112 to 13 votes in the European Parliament's ITRE and ENVI Committee. Following this rejection of the Slovenian candidate, Violeta Bulc was proposed by the Slovenian government and there was an internal reshuffle of portfolios in Junkers' college of Commissioners. A second round of hearings was held by the European Parliament and Bulc was passed by the European Parliament's transport Committee. Slovakia's Marcos Sefcovic was given the Vice President position in the reshuffle and is now in charge of the Energy Union. Slovenia's Violeta Bulc was given the transport portfolio. On October 22nd the European Parliament voted in favour of President Juncker's college of Commissioners during its plenary session. This means that the new college of Commissioner's is now officially due to take over from November 1st. More info: Padraig.Nolan@eupc.org

Circular economy

The European Parliament's ENVI Committee has appointed Finnish MEP Sirpa Pietikainen (EPP) as Rapporteur in response to the European Commission's Communication on a circular economy. The Commission's Communication was presented on July 2nd 2014, together with a legislative proposal on a review of EU waste targets (ENVI Committee appointed, separately Italian MEP Simona Bonafe to respond to the legislative proposal on waste targets). The Communication on a circular economy outlines the European Commission's strategy for achieving a circular economy in Europe and it builds upon the Roadmap to a Resource Efficient Europe. The European Parliament will draft a Report in the coming weeks, before it is voted on at Committee level and eventually (once approved at Committee level), by the plenary of the European Parliament. **EuPC** will be meeting with MEPs on this Report and the Report of MEP Bonafe over the coming weeks. More info: Padraig.Nolan@eupc.org

REACH Update

All Plastics Converters must be aware of the importance of the final CLP deadline on 1 June 2015 when all Mixtures have to be classified according to the CLP rules: classifications may change and Safety Data Sheets will be modified accordingly. The REACH Candidate List now counts 155 substances plus a public consultation running for 10 more; the Authorization List Annex XIV counts 31 substances with 5 more being recommended and 22 on public consultation. For Azodicarbonamide **EuPC** set up a Consortium of ADCA Plastics Users. A Voluntary Commitment is proposed as an alternative to Authorisation. Formaldehyde has been reclassified from carcinogenic 2 to 1B resulting in new labelling requirements, exposure limits and emission thresholds entering into force on April 1st 2015. The Risk Assessment- and the Socio-Economic Assessment Committees of the EU Chemicals Agency (ECHA) have drawn a first positive opinion on the recycled DEHP Authorisation Application dossier suggesting a 7-year Authorisation. More info: Walter.Claes@eupc.org

EuPC Calendar Events & Meetings

03-11-2014	B&C WG6	Brussels
14-11-2014	B&C WG4	Brussels
25-11-2014	Packaging Excom	Brussels
26-11-2014	Steering Committee	Brussels
04-12-2014	RM Committee	Brussels
08-12-2014	B&C WG5	Brussels
09-12-2014	B&C WG 7	Brussels
09-12-2014	B&C EXCOM	Brussels