

Who's Minding the Store?



**Mind
the
Store**

Ranking retailers
on toxic chemicals

Presentation on the 2017 Retailer Report Card

February 14, 2018

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Mind the Store

New Report Card Ranking Thirty Top Retailers on Safer Chemicals Policies

retailersreportcard.com

Mind the Store | Ranking retailers on toxic chemicals

ACT NOW RETAILERS REPORT CARD ABOUT NEWS

Who's Minding the Store?

A report card on retailer actions to eliminate toxic chemicals

SELECT A RETAILER TAKE ACTION

Bloomberg | Amazon Plays Catch-Up in Push to Police Chemicals in Products

Amazon Plays Catch-Up in Push to Police Chemicals in Products

By Lauren Coleman-Lochner
November 13, 2017, 9:55 PM EST

- E-commerce giant is developing its policy, advocacy group says
- Apple leads rankings of companies rated on chemical disclosure



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With prodding, retailers push chemical policies

Advocacy groups' ratings prompt more companies to disclose and reduce chemicals of concern

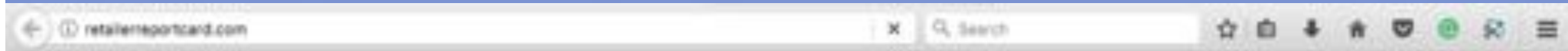
By Melody M. Bomgardner

A year ago, the Mind the Store campaign of consumer activist organization Safer Chemicals, Healthy Families issued a **report card** grading 11 retail chains on their efforts to reduce or eliminate hazardous chemicals in products they carry. No company received an A grade; Target and Walmart were the only ones to even get a B.



and the Store

Report Published On New Website: RetailerReportCard.com



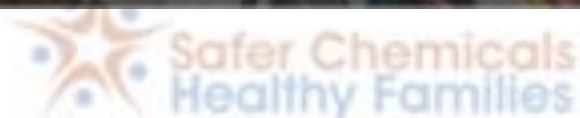
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Who's Minding the Store?

A report card on retailer actions to eliminate toxic chemicals

[SELECT A RETAILER](#)

[TAKE ACTION](#)



Methodology and Metrics for Report Card

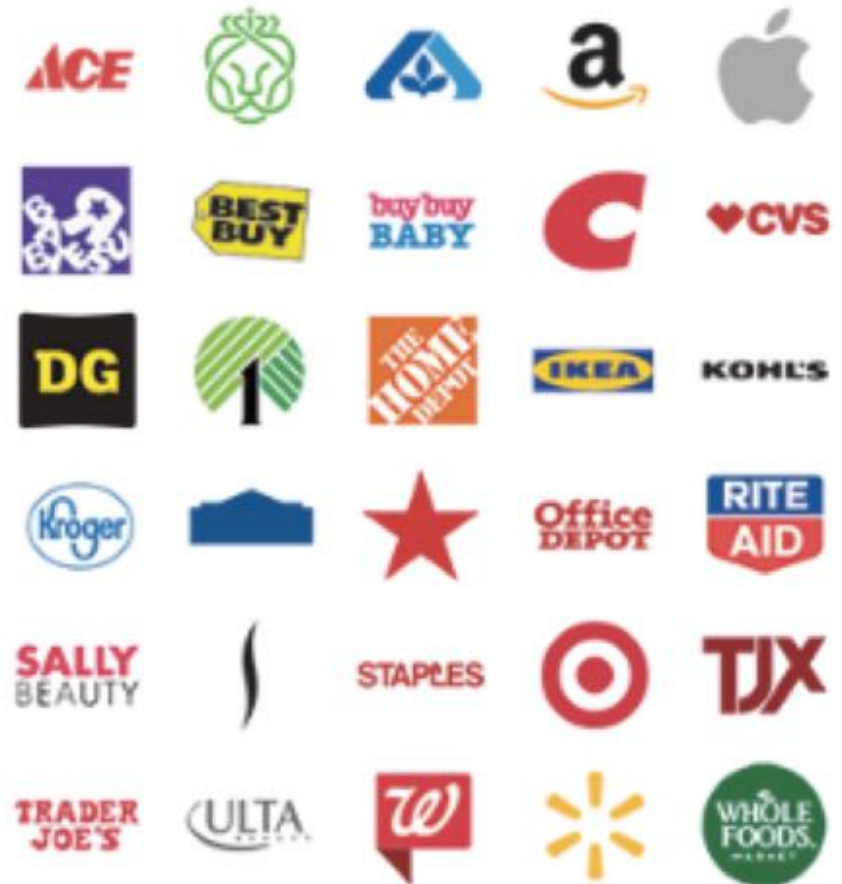
- Evaluation of 30 retailers based on publicly available information, across 11 consumer product sectors
- 14 key metrics
- 9 primary: policy, oversight, accountability, disclosure, action, safer alternatives, transparency, chemical footprint, 3rd party standards
- 5 extra credit: joint announcement, continuous improvement, safer products, collaboration, impact investment
- Harmonization with Chemical Footprint Project (CFP)
- 135 possible number points and corresponding letter grades
- Draft scores shared w/ companies in advance

Grading Rubric		
Number of Points		Letter Grade
Greater than or Equal to:	But Less than:	
105	135	A+
95	105	A
87	95	A-
79	87	B+
71	79	B
63	71	B-
55	63	C+
47	55	C
39	47	C-
31	39	D+
23	31	D
15	23	D-
0	15	F

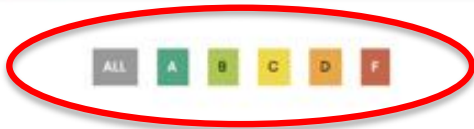


Retailers Evaluated in Who's Minding the Store? by Key Consumer Sector

Key Consumer Sector	Retailers Evaluated in <i>Who's Minding the Store?</i>
Apparel	Amazon, Kohl's, Macy's, Target, TJX, Walmart
Baby/Children	Amazon, Babies "R" Us (Toys "R" Us), buybuy BABY (Bed Bath & Beyond), Costco, Dollar General, Dollar Tree, Target, Walmart
Beauty & Personal Care	Ahold Delhaize, Albertsons, Amazon, Costco, CVS Health, Dollar General, Dollar Tree, Kohl's, Kroger, Macy's, Rite Aid, Sally Beauty, Sephora, Target, Trader Joe's, Ulta, Walgreens, Walmart, Whole Foods Market
Department Store	Kohl's, Macy's
Dollar Store	Dollar General, Dollar Tree
Drugstore	Amazon, Costco, CVS, Rite Aid, Target, Walgreens, Walmart
Electronics	Amazon, Apple, Best Buy, Costco, Kohl's, Macy's, Office Depot, Staples, Target, Walmart
Furniture/Home Goods	Amazon, Bed Bath & Beyond, Costco, Ikea, Kohl's, Macy's, Target, TJX, Walmart, Target
Groceries	Ahold Delhaize, Albertsons, Amazon, Costco, CVS Health, Dollar General, Dollar Tree, Kroger, Rite Aid, Target, Trader Joe's, Walgreens, Walmart, Whole Foods Market
Home Improvement	Ace Hardware, Amazon, Home Depot, Lowe's
Office Supplies	Amazon, Office Depot, Staples



Mind the Store





CVS Health

B+



Ikea

B+



Whole Foods Market

B+



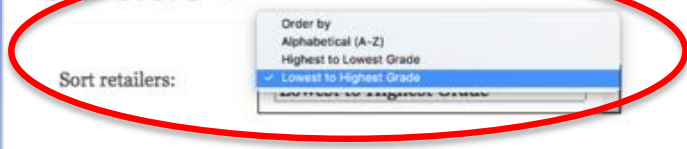
Target

B+



Best Buy

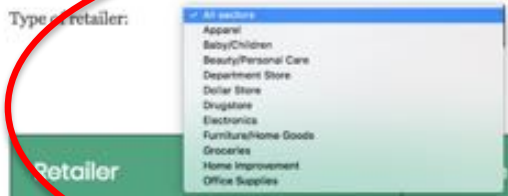
B








Type of retailer: All sectors

Retailer	Grade	Points
 Sally Beauty	F	0
 Office Depot	F	0
 Trader Joe's	F	0
 Kohl's	F	0
 Dollar General	F	0
 TJX Companies	F	0

Sort retailers: Order by



Retailer	Grade	Points
 Apple	A	103
 Walmart	A-	87.5
 Ikea	B+	83.5
 CVS Health	B+	83.5
 Whole Foods Market	B+	83.5



Target was awarded a B+ grade, receiving 79 out of 135 possible points, the 6th highest score of any retailer evaluated, which reflects improvement from its B grade awarded in 2016. Target made significant progress in expanding its chemicals management work over the past year. In January 2017, Target announced an impressive new safer chemicals policy along with ambitious goals to increase transparency of chemicals in products; reduce and eliminate classes of harmful chemicals in textiles, beauty, baby care, personal care, and household cleaning.

Tweet to @Target



12 out of 15 points

Policy: Adopted a retailer safer chemicals policy

Explanation of Points

In 2017, Target announced a new chemicals strategy, policy, and goals, which state it is "committed to driving transparency, proactive chemical management and innovation across all of our owned and national brand consumer products, and operations." The policy applies to the company's "entire value chain, operations and every product" it sells, including both private label and brand name products. The company states it "will utilize hazard profiles to prioritize substances for restriction in products and processes, with an emphasis on the impact these substances could have on workers, guests, and communities...Target will utilize Restricted Substances Lists (RSLs) and Manufacturing Restricted Substances Lists (MRSLs) to minimize and, where possible, remove these prioritized chemicals from our products and processes." The policy is accompanied by clear goals and timelines for reducing perfluorinated chemicals and flame retardants in textiles, as well as parabens, formaldehyde-donors and nonylphenol ethoxylates (NPEs) in beauty, baby care, personal care and household cleaning products. The company's safer chemicals policy does not appear to apply to packaging.

Summary of Target's Grade



12 out of 15 points

Policy: Adopted a retailer safer chemicals policy

Explanation of Points



10 out of 10 points

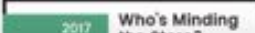
Oversight: Established management responsibilities and incentives

Explanation of Points

Select retailer



Read the Report



Criteria for “Who’s Minding the Store?”



Policy: Adopted a retailer safer chemicals policy

15 points



Oversight: Established management responsibilities and incentives

10 points



Accountability: Ensures supply chain accountability

10 points



Disclosure: Requires suppliers to report use of chemicals in products to retailer

10 points



Store



Action: Reduced or eliminated chemicals of high concern within the last three years

15 points



Safer Alternatives: Evaluates safer alternatives, avoids regrettable substitutes

10 points



Transparency: Demonstrates a commitment to transparency and public disclosure

15 points



Chemical Footprint: Evaluates its chemical footprint

7.5 points



Third-Party Standards: Promotes credible third party standards for safer products

7.5 points



Joint Announcement: Public commitment demonstrated through joint announcement

5 points



Continuous Improvement: Shows continuous improvement by steadily expanding safer chemicals policy

15 points



Safer Products: Program to promote safer products in stores and/or on website

5 points



Collaboration: Actively participates in collaborative process to promote safer chemicals

5 points



Impact Investment: Investing financial resources into independent research into safer alternatives and/or green chemistry solutions

5 points



the Store

Download the Criteria

Criteria	1. Policy: Adopted a retailer safer chemicals policy	2. Oversight: Established management responsibilities and incentives	3. Accountability: Ensures supply chain accountability	4. Disclosure: Requires suppliers to report use of chemicals in products to retailer	5. Action: Reduce chemicals of high concern
Total Points Possible	15	10	10	10	15
Subscore	Points	Points	Points	Points	Points
11	<p>Retailer has a written safer chemicals policy that aims to avoid chemicals of high concern (CHC) beyond regulatory compliance in production packaging offered for sale. Within its scope, the policy also includes all 5 out of the 5 following elements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sets public, quantifiable goals for reducing and eliminating CHCs on the products and/or packaging it sells. • Applies to both products and packaging. • Applies to its own operations, including facilities and in-house purchasing. • For at least one major product category, includes a list of Restricted Substance List for chemicals of high concern (i.e., CHCs not on government restricted list), and • For at least one major product category, includes a Manufacturing Restricted Substance List (i.e., CHCs used to manufacture products but not present in the final product). 	<p>The retailer engages its employees, managers and/or directors in implementing its chemical policy for product safety beyond regulatory compliance through all 4 of the following activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assigned a member of senior management with responsibility for chemical policy • Includes chemical policy in job descriptions and individual performance metrics • Includes board level engagement in chemical policy and • Established financial incentives for senior management related to chemical policies 	<p>The retailer engages in 3 out of 4 practices to assess and ensure supplier conformance with retailer chemical policies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Audits suppliers to verify chemical data submitted • Trains suppliers on chemical policy and/or reporting requirements • Requires supplier testing in 3rd party approved laboratories and provides results to assess conformance with chemicals policy • Retailer routinely tests parts, materials, or ingredients provided by suppliers to assess conformance with 	<p>Full chemical ingredient information collected for all private label and brand name formulated products (MSD generic material content for articles (see definition of full chemical ingredient information in appendix).</p>	<p>The retailer publishes a list of chemicals of high concern (CHC) and/or in-scope products</p>
12	<p>Retailer has a written safer chemicals policy that aims to avoid chemicals of high concern (CHC) beyond regulatory compliance in production packaging offered for sale. Within its scope, the policy also includes any 4 out of the 5 additional listed policy elements.</p>	<p>The retailer engages its employees, managers and/or directors in implementing its chemical policy for product safety beyond regulatory compliance through any 3 of the 4 listed activities.</p>	<p>Engages in 3 out of 4 practices to assess supplier conformance. (NOTE: Double points may be awarded for a single practice that is major in scope or impact.</p>	<p>Requires private label and/or brand name suppliers to report all ingredients or key formulated products OR generic material content for articles (see definition of full chemical ingredient information in appendix).</p>	<p>Retailer reduces chemicals of high concern</p>

Available at

<http://retailerreportcard.com/2017/11/methodology/>



Mind the Store

Five Key Findings

1:

IMPROVING: The nation's largest retailers are driving a race to the top to ensure that safer chemicals are used to make and package their products.

2:

LEADING: Other retail leaders on safer chemicals were newly identified by expanding the evaluation to 30 major firms that dominate US retail sectors.

3:

LAGGING: Two-thirds of retailers surveyed are serious laggards, failing to implement safer chemical policies, with 40% earning D's and 30% F grades.

4:

REDUCING: Retailers are driving toxic chemicals from the market, but more effort is needed to avoid regrettable substitutes as alternatives.

5:

BY SECTOR: Some retail sectors are relatively high performers while other sectors seriously lag behind in ensuring the chemical safety of products.

TARGET'S CHEMICAL POLICY



TRANSPARENCY

We will strive for full visibility to chemicals contained in or used to make the products we sell and use in our operations.



CHEMICAL MANAGEMENT

We will work with business partners to implement policies, practices and tools that facilitate the management of chemicals throughout our supply chain and across our operations.



INNOVATION

We recognize that safer alternatives may not exist today for some chemicals, therefore we will actively pursue and promote new approaches to chemicals development and the commercialization of safer alternatives.



Walmart Strengthens Sustainable Chemistry Commitment, Reports Progress in Safer Product Formulation



Retailer sets new goal for 10 percent priority chemical reduction by 2022



Costco Wholesale is committed to protecting consumer and environmental health and safety, through establishing and developing products, and processes, so they are safer, healthier, and more sustainable.

Costco's Chemical Management Policy goes beyond the boundaries of regulatory compliance from the product manufacturing process, and from consumer use and disposal, in an effort to reduce potential chemical harm to humans and to the environment.



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CVS Health Takes Major Step to Address Chemicals of Consumer Concern

Wednesday, April 19, 2017

Parabens, phthalates and the most prevalent formaldehyde from extensive line of store brand beauty and personal care

Company also publishes full list of restricted chemicals

WOONSOCKET, R.I., April 19, 2017 – Today CVS Health (step forward) in advancing its efforts to address chemical announcing the removal of parabens, phthalates and the formaldehyde donors across nearly 600 beauty and pet store brand CVS Health, Beauty 360, Essence of Beauty, The Promise Organic line of store brand products also do ingredients. CVS Pharmacy will stop shipping store brand



Chemical Management Statement

Best Buy is committed to building a thriving business, while ensuring we are a good steward of the environment and support the responsible use of chemicals in compliance with all laws and regulations.

Beyond compliance, we created a chemical management program to systematically evaluate and prioritize efforts to address chemical risks and opportunities. We seek to reduce the use of chemicals, phase out chemicals of concern and improve the general management of chemicals. Our efforts focus on where we can make the greatest impact:

- Within our **corporate, retail, service and distribution operations**, Best Buy actively looks for opportunities to reduce the use of chemicals. Whenever possible, we work to transition to safer alternatives, with a preference for EPA Safer Choice chemicals.
- For our **private label and direct import products**, we outline supplier requirements regarding the use of chemicals in products as well as those used in the manufacturing process. Best Buy maintains a detailed Restricted Substance List (RSL), which specifies chemicals restricted based upon regulations or known hazards and chemicals suppliers are required to report usage to us.



Chemical Strategy

At The Home Depot®, we recognize the responsibility we have for organization, and that our biggest impact is the products we sell. throughout the supply chain, The Home Depot is committed to of environment.

With our encouragement, our suppliers have been investing in de products. The Home Depot supports the work of the Green Chem through annual membership and participation in the Retail Leade participated in developing the GC3's Joint Statement on using Grr Advance Sustainable Products. We and our suppliers also partner organizations and environmental non-profits that guide the home chemical ingredient use. The Home Depot is committed to contin environmental impact of the products we sell.



Albertsons Companies Chemical Policy

At Albertsons Companies, we understand that consumers want products that they can feel good about. That's why we're committed to quality products, product safety, environmental stewardship and sound chemical management, including limiting the use of certain ingredients of consumer concern. We strive for greater transparency and work with our supplier community to maintain and continually improve brand-specific guidelines for our products. Examples include the following:

1. Our *O'Organics*™ products are United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) certified organic (95%+ organic ingredients), and must meet USDA's standards to receive the certified organic seal. By definition, USDA organic products are free of synthetic additives like pesticides, fertilizers, and dyes, and must not be processed using industrial solvents. They are also non-GMO.
2. As with all our products, we require our suppliers to comply with legal and regulatory guidelines. For our *Open Nature*™ line of products, we also maintain a Restricted Substances List that includes more than 100 ingredients of consumer concern, including parabens, artificial colors and flavors, certain preservatives and certain packaging materials. This list goes above and beyond legal and regulatory requirements.
3. Our *OWN Brands Safer Choice*-certified products must adhere to the U.S.



Highest and Lowest Scoring Retailers

Rank	Grade	Leading Retailers
#1	A	Apple
#2	A-	Wal-Mart Stores
#3 (tie)	B+	CVS Health
#3 (tie)	B+	IKEA
#5	B+	Whole Foods Market*
#6	B+	Target
#7	B	Best Buy
#8	C+	The Home Depot
#9	C-	Costco
#10	C-	Albertsons Companies

Rank	Grade	Lagging Retailers
#22	F	Toys "R" Us / Babies "R" Us
#23 (tie)	F	Ace Hardware
#23 (tie)	F	Ahold Delhaize
#23 (tie)	F	Dollar General
#23 (tie)	F	Kohl's
#23 (tie)	F	Office Depot
#23 (tie)	F	Sally Beauty
#23 (tie)	F	TJX Companies
#23 (tie)	F	Trader Joe's



How retailers rank on tackling toxic chemicals

EXTRA CREDIT

	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	Final Score	
	Policy	Design	Accountability	Disclosure	Action	Safe Alternatives	Transparency	Chemical Footprint	Third party Standards	Just Announcement	Continuous Improvement	Safe Products	Collaboration	Investment		
ACE Ace Hardware	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0 PTS. F
Alma's Market	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0 PTS. F
Allstate	4	2.5	2.5	0	6	2	7.75	0	4.5	0	10	0	0	0	0	39.25 PTS. C-
Amazon	0	3.75	2.5	0	3	0	3	0	3	0	5	5	5	0	0	30.25 PTS. D
Apple	12	10	10	7.5	12	10	9	0	7.5	0	15	0	5	5	0	103 PTS. A
Babies 'R' Us	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	5 PTS. F
Best Buy	9	7.5	7.5	5	12	2	5	0	3	0	10	5	5	0	0	71 PTS. B
Buy Buy Baby	6	2.5	2.5	5	0	1	6.5	0	1.5	0	10	0	0	0	0	35 PTS. D+
Costco	6	2.5	7.5	0	0	4	5	0	3	0	10	0	5	0	0	43 PTS. C-
CVS CVS Health	6	10	5	6	15	6	9	1.5	0	5	10	5	5	0	0	83.5 PTS. B+

Recommendations for Retailers

1: **Policy:** Publish a written safer chemical policy, with senior management and board level engagement and accountability for suppliers, which measures and publicly reports on continuous improvement toward reducing, eliminating and safely substituting toxic chemicals in products and packaging;

2: **Goals and Metrics:** Develop clear public goals with timelines and metrics to measure success in eliminating chemicals of concern and reducing retailers' chemical footprint;

3: **Transparency:** Embrace “radical transparency” to meet rising consumer demand for: full public disclosure of chemical ingredients in products and packaging; safer chemicals policies; and progress made in eliminating harmful chemicals and requiring informed substitution; and

4: **Foresight:** Anticipate being graded in the future on progress made on chemical safety in products sold at retail, whether or not your company was included in the 2016 or 2017 editions of Who's Minding the Store? – A Report Card on Retailer Actions to Eliminate Toxic Chemicals.



Tell America's top retailers: We need you to step up on toxic chemicals!

LEADERS:



LAGGARDS:



First Name *

Last Name *

Email *

Home Address

City (no state) *

ZIP/Postal Code *

Not in the US?

START WRITING

Consumers taking action!

Tell retailers: It's time to act on toxic chemicals

Scored D



Scored F



First Name *

Last Name *

Email *

ZIP/Postal Code *

Not in the US?

START WRITING

You may receive updates from Safer Chemicals, Healthy Families, the sponsor of this letter campaign.

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Future Directions

- **More retailers** in more sectors will be graded
- Greater focus on reducing **chemical footprint**
- Greater attention to **chemicals of high concern** currently neglected by federal agencies:
 - Ex: Methylene chloride (MeCl₂, dichloromethane)
 - Ex: Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS)
 - Ex: *ortho*-Phthalates



Methylene chloride in paint strippers

- **Immediately dangerous to life:**
 - More than 60 deaths since 1980
- **Poses “unreasonable risk”:**
 - cancer, neurotoxicity, liver toxicity
 - More than 230,000 workers exposed, plus many consumers
- **Banned in Europe, but not in US**
 - proposed six-month phase-out under TSCA was shelved by EPA



Retailer Responsibility for MeCl2:



- Lead in the absence of federal government leadership
- Avoid liability and reputational risk as death toll mounts
- Announce exit strategy to send market signal up supply chain
- Demand timely introduction of effective alternatives
- Scrutinize other uses of methylene chloride in products

Highly fluorinated chemicals (PFAS)

- **Very persistent**
- **Adverse health effects** from PFOA/PFOS (C8);
 - Low birth weight, cancer, thyroid effects
- New C6 chemistry approved by EPA & FDA ***without safety assurance and data***
- Very persistent C6 PFAS: PFHxA/PFHxS



Retailer Responsibility for PFAS

- Know your product chemistry
- TEXTILES: Follow IKEA's lead: phase out PFAS
- HOUSEHOLD: In waxes & floor polishes, etc.
- FOOD PACKAGING: 40% tested positive for FI
- Grocery and restaurant chains should:
 - Screen food packaging for total fluorine
 - Work with suppliers to substitute PFAS-free paper packaging and textiles



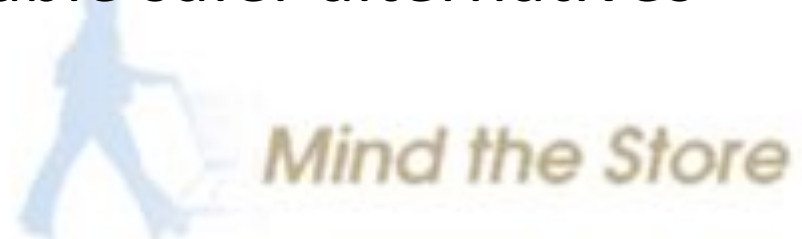
ortho-Phthalates

- **Unacceptable cumulative risk:**
 - to women of reproductive age and young children
- **Developmental toxicity** to reproductive health and brain
- Widespread production & use
- **Food is the major exposure pathway for most people**
- Most food contact use banned in Europe, but *not* in U.S.

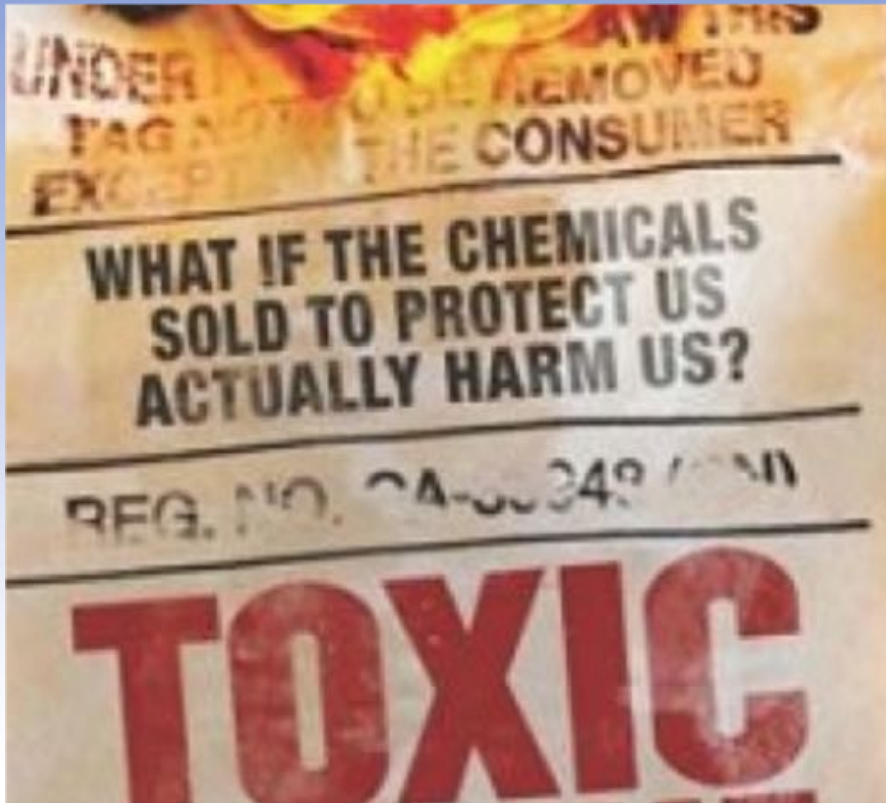


Retailer Responsibility for Phthalates

- CONSUMER PRODUCTS:
 - Phase out phthalate use in “fragrance”
 - Phase out other uses in plastics & rubber
 - Leadership by The Home Depot on vinyl flooring
- FOOD PRODUCTS: Identify/eliminate sources
 - Test private label food products for phthalates
 - Require suppliers to screen materials for total phthalates and conduct source investigations
 - Replace use with available safer alternatives



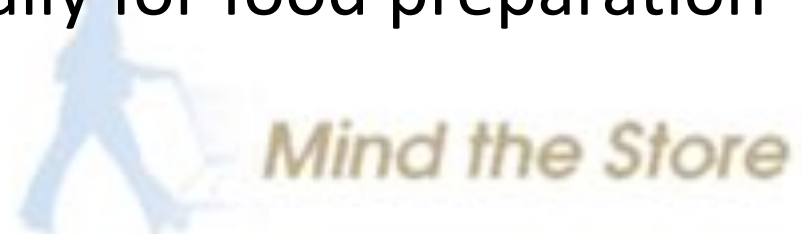
Toxic Flame Retardants (FRs)



- Continued high concern with **halogenated FRs**
- FRs largely driven out of residential furniture
- Growing concern with **triaryl phosphate FRs**, e.g. iPTPP, which is a persistent, bioaccumulative and toxic (PBT) chemical

Retailer Responsibility for FRs

- Restrict all additive uses of **TPPBA**, the highest volume halogenated FR, and all uses of **iPTPP**
- Know and disclose your product chemistry
- Work with suppliers to phase out toxic FRs in:
 - **ELECTRONICS**, used by consumers
 - **CHILDREN's PRODUCTS**, e.g. car seats
 - **APPLIANCES**, especially for food preparation



Trending on Chemicals & Products

- ↓ Federal agency action to restrict chemicals
- ↑ Consumer concern with safety & sustainability
- ↑ Transparency of ingredients, policies, etc.
- ↑ Market leadership by retailers and brands
- ↑ State action to disclose & restrict chemicals

→ Expanded business opportunity for providers of green chemistry solutions

Thank you.



Visit RetailerReportCard.com to read the new report

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@PreventHarm

**Join the conversation at
#MindTheStore**

