

Tentative Specification for 'Adhesives'

April 2019

Background

In April of 2018 a tentative specification for Adhesives was approved by the Interagency Subcommittee. Comments on the tentative specification were received from the Adhesives and Sealants Council, American Chemistry Council, American Coatings Association, Clean and Healthy New York, the Healthy Schools Network, Momentive and UL.

In response to the comments, the following changes were made to the specification:

- Goal and Background sections were added, and background information on the types of chemicals that are contained in adhesives was moved from the specification section to this section;
- Diisocyanates and formaldehyde were not removed as examples of asthmagens because they are listed in the AOEC database and are examples of asthmagens, so their use is appropriate;
- Definitions were added for Environmental Product Declaration (EPD) and Health Product Declaration (HPD) statements to support the addition of EPDs and HPDs as an encouragement;
- Modifications were made to the UL EcoLogo and UL GREENGUARD Gold definitions;
- The specification section was reorganized and revised as follows:
 - A hierarchy of attachment methods was added;
 - The certification standards were organized into a hierarchy (multi-attribute certifications are encouraged more than single-attribute);
 - An encouragement to use products that have an EPD, HPD or equivalent was added;
 - The word "must" was changed to "should" to make it clear that all of the specification requirements are encouragements.

The use of hazard lists such as Proposition 65 and the AOEC database were not removed from the specification because the use of these lists is an encouragement and is not a prohibition or ban, and it was felt that the lists are an easy to use and helpful screening tool that allows the specification to include single attribute certifications that do not screen for material hazards.

Based on the changes made to the tentative specification, it is recommended that the revised tentative specification be re-released as tentative.