TSCA's Impact on Society and Chemical Industry

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George W. Ingle, EDITOR Chemical Manufacturers Association

Based on a symposium jointly sponsored by the ACS Divisions of Industrial and Engineering Chemistry, Chemical Information, Organic Coatings and Plastics Chemistry, Small Chemical Businesses, and the Board Committee on Corporation Associates at the 182nd National Meeting of the American Chemical Society at Las Vegas, Nevada, March 31–April 1, 1982

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FOREWORD

The ACS SYMPOSIUM SERIES was founded in 1974 to provide a medium for publishing symposia quickly in book form. The format of the Series parallels that of the continuing ADVANCES IN CHEMISTRY SERIES except that in order to save time the papers are not typeset but are reproduced as they are submitted by the authors in camera-ready form. Papers are reviewed under the supervision of the Editors with the assistance of the Series Advisory Board and are selected to maintain the integrity of the symposia; however, verbatim reproductions of previously published papers are not accepted. Both reviews and reports of research are acceptable since symposia may embrace both types of presentation.

PREFACE

A COMPREHENSIVE HISTORY of the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) and its impacts has not been compiled. Because these impacts will require substantial time to identify and evaluate, such a history may not be written for another decade or more. Meanwhile, detection and analysis of the effects of TSCA from a variety of viewpoints will help to delineate the beneficial and the detrimental consequences of this law. This preliminary review was the purpose of the American Chemical Society symposia on the impacts of TSCA on society and the chemical industry, September 11 and 12, 1979, at Washington, D.C., and March 31 and April 1, 1982, at Las Vegas, Nevada. Although the first of these symposia was more predictive than factual, both have indicated that the effects of such a far-reaching and complex law that affects the fourth largest U.S. industry will take much more time to understand and evaluate.

From research and development through production and disposal of chemical substances, TSCA touches on most aspects of the chemical industry. For this reason, all members of the American Chemical Society, whether in industry, education, or government, should be aware of the interaction between this law and their vocations and careers.

For their contributions of time, talent, and experience in describing these effects, the authors of these papers should be greatly applauded. To the reviewers of these papers, whose comments were taken by the authors to improve content and interpretation, my thanks are given.

The other ACS divisions that served as joint sponsors with the Division of Industrial and Engineering Chemistry and the chairmen provided for three of the four sessions of this symposium should be identified for their helpful assistance: Howard M. Peters from the Division of Chemical Information (Chemistry and the Law Subdivision); Kenneth W. Greenlee from the Division of Small Chemical Businesses; and Lawrence Keller from the Division of Organic Coatings and Plastics Chemistry. Lawrence Keller served also as co-chairman and helped develop the general scope of the symposium. The Board Committee on Corporation Associates also was a joint sponsor.

For background information on this subject, one may consult the following: (1) Annual Reports of the Council on Environmental Quality;

(2) related publications of the National Academy of Sciences; and (3) "The Business Guide to TOSCA, Effects and Actions," G. S. Dominguez, John Wiley and Sons (1979).

Finally, I must acknowledge the frequently requested and helpful guidance and advice given by W. Novis Smith, Program Chairman, and Robert A. Ference, Program Secretary, for the Division of Industrial and Engineering Chemistry.

GEORGE W. INGLE Chemical Manufacturers Association Washington, DC 20037 December 1982

Background, Goals, and Resultant Issues

GEORGE W. INGLE

Chemical Manufacturers Association, Washington, DC 20037

At least two parts of the history of TSCA have been prepared. The legislative history was prepared by the Library of Congress, Congressional Research Service, shortly after then President Ford signed the bill into law, as Public Law 94-469. A significant part of this summary is Appendix I, of the April 1971 report, "Toxic Substances" prepared by the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ). The nearly six years of legislative activity began when then President Nixon included the essence of this report in his State of the Union Message to Congress in February 1971.

While this CEQ report is the legislative origin of TSCA, the conceptual origin, like that of each of the several pieces of environmental legislation beginning in the mid-sixties, may well be Rachel Carson's "The Silent Spring," published in 1962. Several other related and heavily publicized events created intensified interest; these involved vinyl chloride monomer (VCM), polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB's), mercury and other substances associated with biological damage.

A second part of the history of TSCA was prepared by the Chemical Manufacturers Association (CMA) -- "The First Four Years of the Toxic Substances Control Act -- A Review of the Environmental Protection Agency's Progress in Implementing TSCA." This review completed and summarized the "significant developments in the interpretation and implementation of TSCA since its enactment and CMA's assessment of them."

There seems to be no corresponding analysis by the initial proponents of TSCA, the group of environmentalist organizations including the Natural Resources Defense Council; the Environmental Defense Fund, The Conservation Foundation, and others. In time, one expects that such a perspective will be contributed.

Each of these different views should be of concern to the broad spectrum of members of the American Chemical Society. It is their disciplines and their industry which are or will be affected in some way by the concepts, procedures and controls in TSCA.

0097-6156/83/0213-0001\$06.00/0 © 1983 American Chemical Society While the entire CEQ Report of April 1971 should be read, its conclusions should be stressed:

 Toxic substances are entering the environment and these substances can have severe effects;

2. Existing legal authorities are inadequate and new legal authorizations are required. Those authorities included in the President's February '71 report were:

-- EPA's authority to restrict or prohibit use or distribution of a chemical substance, to protect health or the environment; not only adverse effects but desired benefits must be considered;

-- If the hazard were imminent, EPA could ask the courts to restrain use or distribution of the substance immediately;

-- EPA would be authorized to issue standards for tests to be performed and for results to be achieved for new substances, which could be marketed only after meeting these standards;

-- EPA could request from manufacturers information on potentially toxic substances -- names, composition, production level, uses, and results of tests to evaluate their effects;

-- The Council on Environmental Quality would be charged with coordinating efforts to establish a uniform system for classifying and handling information on chemical substances.

It was further concluded that the Toxic Substances Control Act is a new way of looking at environmental problems, a systematic and comprehensive approach, not limited to pollutants classified by their occurrence, as in air or water. TSCA contemplates the flow of potentially toxic substances from their origin, through use, to disposal.

In the five and one-half years of ensuing Congressional activity, many additional aspects were considered and some were included in the Act as finally enacted. Possibly the most controversial had to do with the treatment of new substances. Were these to be treated by registration, as is the case in the Federal Insecticide Fungicide and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA), or were they to be subject to a less onerous notification procedure? This would begin the attempt to assess their risks more in balance with the growth in commercial volume of the substance, and hence with its capacity to pay the costs for the frequently costly testing required. Without such a balance, the

1. INGLE Background, Goals, and Resultant Issues

industry asserted that excessive costs for testing new substances without established markets would frustrate their research and development. The notification view prevailed finally in the form of a flexible and sequential review of new substances, and of existing substances, including those new substances found to present no unreasonable risk and thus, in time, added to the inventory of existing substances.

This decision is the source of several problems discussedin this symposium. Does this multistage system of assessing the risks of new substances simultaneously protect and nurture chemical innovation, as Section 2 of TSCA includes as part of Congressional Policy and Intent? The papers by D. Bannerman and C.W. Umland deal explicitly with this issue and others indirectly. Has the European Economic Community's Sixth Amendto its June 27, 1967, Directive (relating to ment the classification, packaging and labeling of dangerous substances) created an international impasse by establishing, for notifying new substances, a system nearer to registration? B. Biles's chapter suggests this has happened, and that it will take these groups of trading partners years to resolve. This problem is aggravated further by OECD's (Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development) proposal of its "Minimum Premarketing Data" requirement for assessing the risks of new chemicals. Almost identical to the EEC's "base set" of data for the same purpose, these two rigid systems are difficult to harmonize with TSCA on a sound risk-assessment basis, but the effort will continue.

Another balance of factors within TSCA has to do with the risks and benefits of the far larger number of existing chemicals. E.H. Blair's contribution examines the problem of setting priorities for testing exsiting chemicals to assess their risks in a cost-effective procedure.

Of all that which is known about the risks of these substances to health and to the environment, how much is significant? What are the further needs for information? How much of this may exist in unpublished work elsewhere in the new world? How can unnecessary duplication be eliminated? How far should the OECD Chemicals Programme go in internationalizing review and evaluation of existing chemicals for their risks? Is it true, as E. H. Hurst asserts in his chapter, that the costs of notifying new chemicals are so great, in relation to their commercial value, that USA research and development increasingly examines existing substances, or closely related new substances, with minimal risks? These questions should be pondered by chemists in research and development, because they bear on future of the chemical industry, here and abroad, and thus on chemists' careers.

These effects and those of other regulations proposed or implemented by EPA have stimulated a flow of initiatives by the chemical industry and its major trade associations to propose changes in these or new concepts for other, regulations, as described by S. Davis, Esq., in her analysis. Many of these changes and concepts are of particular interest to the smaller chemical manufacturer. Their limited financial and manpower resources are far less able to cope with the requirements of TSCA, with the result that this significant source of chemical innovation is at a serious disadvantage.

In its full reach, TSCA requires the receipt, production and management of a vast amount of information. As C. Elmer and D. Harlow indicate, major new incentives for larger and better information management systems within the corporate structures of most chemical manufacturers have resulted. The role of EPA itself, in amassing such information, maintaining its quality, and making it available within the limits of confidentiality controls, needs critical examination. The significance of those elements of this information that are trade secrets is discussed by J. O'Reilly. He stresses significant differences between the untried EEC system under the Sixth Amendment to the 67/548/EEC Directive, and the functioning TSCA System -- differences which need resolution. The utility of TSCA's information banks to people in chemical market research, for example, was not described in this Symposium, but it would seem to be only a matter of time before this major compilation will attract workers in this and other parts of the chemical industry, as well as workers in the government itself and people representing public interests.

The impacts of TSCA, such as those on two specific exemplary industries, surface coating polymers and metal-cutting fluids, by S.Oslosky and H.Fribush, respectively, are implied but actually not explicit within TSCA. Consider the required assessment of risks, the need for test-data describing effects on health and the environment, aside from plant inspections, subpoenas, prohibited acts, penalties for prohibited acts, enforcement and seizure, judicial review, citizens' civil actions and petitions, and employee protection provisions in the Act. Thus, it's inevitable that the alert manufacturer will adjust his product research, development and selection processes to identify and use substances with reduced risk to health and the environment wherever possible. As structure-(biological)activity relationships become more reliable, the alert

4

1. INGLE Background, Goals, and Resultant Issues

synthesizer of new substances should rely increasingly on this discipline to help reduce costs in sharpening his selection of preferred structures. These factors direct the chemical industry toward substances, uses and controls which should be generally preventive of insult to health and environment.

Aside from the actions already initiated by EPA under Section 6 to restrict exposures to polychlorinated biphenyls and to chlorofluorocarbons in certain uses, no other actions have been taken against specific chemical substances, nor has an imminent hazard been identified for appropriate action. Less than a dozen proposed orders have been issued under Section 5(e) requesting further information to assess the risks of as many new substances. Perhaps 80 informal requests for further information on such substances have been made and satisfied voluntarily. Testing programs for a substantial number of existing substances have been started and more are planned. In addition, of course, the monumental task of creating an inventory of some 55,000 existing chemicals was completed.

With very few short-term exceptions, these actions may lead hopefully to long-term improvement, largely by preventive measures, and by broad education of manufacturers, processors and users, to reduce health and environmental insults. How can such meaningful progress, if any, be measured, aside from numbers of regulations issued, or chemical compounds tested? How can it be determined if this noble experiment is successful, let alone cost-effective? M.J. Lipsett's paper suggests that impacts of TSCA on public and occupational health may take a long time to detect, if ever, simply because TSCA is only one in a spectrum of related laws.

How, then, can decisions be made under TSCA if the effects are so difficult to discern? Some insight into useful and quantitative methodology is given by D.W. North.

Equally or more important for the long term, is the supply of talent to use this or other methodology to make such decisions, whether in the regulatory agencies or in the industry. To the extent that relevant sectors of industry take the full range of initiatives to reduce adverse biological effects, aside from complying with existing and forthcoming regulatory requirements -- the regulatory agencies' roles may be minimized. To this essential goal, R.L. Perrine's comments on educating the Ph.D. environmental chemist for careers in government, industry, and in education are directed.

Having asked all these questions, and made analyses and drawn conclusions from observing implementation of TSCA to date, how can one sum its overall costs and its benefits? On balance, do the benefits equal the costs? The costs are consistently more evident than the benefits, but is this simply because the latter are so difficult to quantify? Much information has been generated about new and existing chemical substances, but EPA's control of unreasonable risks related to these has been very much less in evidence. Does this reflect the use of other laws, EPA's inaction, industry's self-control or industry's opposition to any control by EPA? The Conservation Foundation's J.C. Davies, who had a significant role in CEQ's initial creation of TSCA, commented, "there have been almost no significant benefits of TSCA resulting from controls on existing chemicals. The costs of administration of TSCA in '81 approximated \$85 million, and industry and public costs for compliance in '80 were estimated by CEQ to be roughly 3.5x this level."

Are the indirect costs more important than these direct costs? Has innovation in the chemical industry been supressed by TSCA? How reliable are the assumptions that such suppression has occurred? Can TSCA's effects be separated from those of inflation, tax rate, industrial R/D budgets, and long-term maturation of the industry?

Davies suggests that the uncertainties in costs and in benefits are so great as to frustrate their comparison. Aside from this is the philosophy that the public, through TSCA, has a role in decision-making with regard to chemicals. In this context, the public might well ask if experience to date in implementing TSCA indicates areas of inefficiency. Are all parts of TSCA workable? What is the most effective balance between regulatory action and voluntary compliance? Does TSCA provide a "due-process" for industry and the public in determining if a substance poses unreasonable risks? Does TSCA gather more information than is needed for appropriate control of chemicals? Does TSCA provide a reasonable framework for deciding que. ions of policy, if not of science, as to how much risk society will tolerate in using chemical substances?

Few of these questions are easy to answer. The effort has begun in these papers. All members of the American Chemical Society should be concerned that progress is made toward their answers.

RECEIVED August 10, 1982

6

Impact on Market Introduction of New Chemicals

DOUGLAS G. BANNERMAN¹

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Washington, DC 20460

The Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) refers to "new chemicals" as those not on the TSCA Inventory of Chemical Substances which lists about 55,000 existing commercial chemicals. All new chemicals must enter EPA's premanufacture notification program (PMN) for review before manufacture. This program is the most complete record of development of new chemicals by U.S. industry over the past 2 1/2 years. To date over 1,000 notices have been submitted, many including confidential business information (CBI). Despite the CBI, it is possible to summarize EPA's experience with new chemical substances and to evaluate the PMN program and its impact on product innovation. That is essentially the aim of this paper.

Assessments of these new chemicals are made by teams of multidisciplined scientists, and are based on limited firm data, comparisons to similar chemicals and estimations of exposure to humans and the environment. Generally, these PMNs contain some information on acute health effects but relatively scant information on chronic health and environmental effects. Although there is no way of knowing how many harmful chemicals were kept off the market since this PMN requirement went into effect, this risk assessment process was never applied so uniformly and thoroughly in pre-TSCA days and in this respect TSCA is meeting one of its major goals.

Information presented and discussed includes the number of PMNs submitted, an analysis of the classes and types of new chemicals, the most active product development areas and the actual number of new chemicals which have been commercialized after

¹ Current address: National Electrical Manufacturers Association, Washington, D.C. 20036

0097-6156/83/0213-0007\$06.00/0 © 1983 American Chemical Society completing the review process. Intermediates in the manufacture of other chemicals, polymers for a variety of end uses but mainly for paints and coatings, and additives such as flame retardants, plasticizers and antioxidants for plastics account for over half of all the uses of these new chemicals.

Experience to date reveals the great majority of PMNs to be submitted by large companies, those with annual sales in excess of 100 million dollars. These data alone do not permit either a conclusion that small companies develop very few chemical products nor a conclusion that the PMN requirements of TSCA have severely hindered small chemical companies in their new product innovation efforts. Reference was made to a published study by the Chemical Specialties Manufacturers Association (CSMA) which found that a misperception by industry of PMN testing requirements was a principal reason for the apparent decline in introduction of new products by small ingredient manufacturing firms.

Some confirmation of this cause was obtained by EPA but more direct and valid information is needed before definitive conclusions can be drawn. There is no doubt, however, that as with any government regulation, increased cost is involved. Established chemicals can more easily carry the burden whereas new chemicals whose future is in doubt could prove to be cost prohibitive in terms of regulatory compliance. For this reason, the PMN program is under close scrutiny by Vice President Bush's task force on reguatory relief. EPA is studying more cost-effective means of compliance. Voluntary programs are being examined, as well as elimination of unnecessary burdens on various segments of industry.

The results of this examination of the PMN requirements of TSCA has prompted EPA to launch a wide-ranging program to reduce the regulatory burden imposed on industry by this provision of the law and, concurrently, in cooperation with industry, to educate the small business segment with respect to the goals and requirements of TSCA.

A joint EPA-industry program is proposed to make it easier for the chemical industry to comply with the PMN requirements of TSCA and hopefully encourage more new product development activity. This program includes a simplified reporting form promulgating exemptions for those classes of new chemicals expected to pose no unreasonable risk to health or the environment, and several direct assistance programs aimed at helping small chemical firms to comply with TSCA. Joint EPA-industry efforts were proposed to encourage industry to continue its new product development activity through a better understanding of the goals and regulatory requirements of TSCA.

With all of the introduction to this subject which you have had today and after all of the excellent preceding presentations, I am going to jump right into my subject and dispense with any background briefing.

First, of all, I would like to clarify the term "new chemicals." I am referring to the TSCA definition as those chemicals not listed on the TSCA Chemical Substance Inventory and maintained on a daily basis by the Office of Toxic Substances within EPA. This is a list of all commercial chemicals - some 55,000 in all - produced in or imported into the United States during the period of 1975 through 1979. My talk this afternoon will not cover the thousands of formula changes in mixtures of chemicals which occur almost daily as industry tries to meet changing market demands.

As you heard this morning from several speakers, the premanufacture notification provision of TSCA has been in effect since July 1, 1979 and since then EPA has received over 1,000 notices of intent to manufacture and introduce new chemicals into U.S. commerce. This is the only complete and accurate record of the development and commercialization of new chemicals ever compiled and, as such, is a repository of a wealth of information. A major portion of it is classified by EPA as confidential business information - CBI in our lingo - and is closely protected against inadvertent disclosure.

Neverthless, it is possible to analyze the information supplied by industry on new chemicals and summarize it in a way which does not breach CBI. This is what I have done in preparing this paper and it is the work of many of my cohorts within the Office of Toxic Substances. I intend to summarize the experience of EPA in dealing with these notices including an analysis of the classes and types of new chemicals, market areas, company size and other data. From this I will draw some conclusions about the impact of this requirement of TSCA on new product innovation and will describe what EPA is doing about it.

On my first figure (Figure 1) I have plotted the number of PMNs submitted per quarter and you can see the rapid rate of increase since July 1, 1979. The rate of increase has slowed but there doesn't appear to be any leveling off as yet. The total number submitted during the first quarter of this year - ending today as a matter of fact - will be about 210 but this includes a single category of 30 or so chemicals.

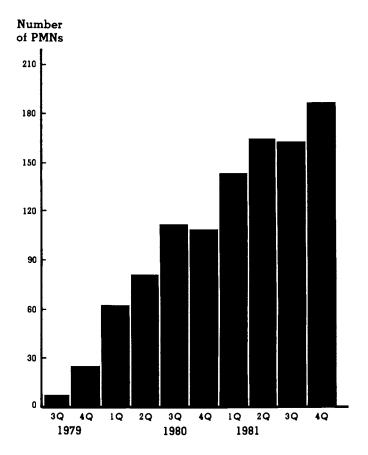


Figure 1. Premanufacture notices (July 1, 1979–Dec. 31, 1981). The total number of PMNs submitted over the 10-quarter period was 1056.

On Table I is a list of the major end uses for the new chemicals submitted up through the end of 1981. Intermediates in the manufacture of other chemicals, polymers for a variety of end uses but mainly for paints and coatings, and additives such as flame retardants, plasticizers and antioxidants for plastics account for over half of all the uses of these new chemicals. These seven major categories in total represent slightly over three fourths of all projected uses. One would suspect that this pattern will change with market demand and competitive developments and a year from now we might see intense R&D activity in some other specific market areas culminate in the introduction of a line of new chemical substances.

On Figure 2 I have shown the number of these new chemicals which have actually been commercialized by the manufacturer or importer as of March 1st of this year. About 30% of the total submissions were commercialized through the end of the 3rd quarter of last year. This seems like a very slow rate of commercialization but the reasons for some companies not following through the development phase with a commercialization phase are common-place in the industry. We made a spot telephone survey of a number of these manufacturers and received the following answers to our questions (TableII). The chemical industry would say that these reasons are par for the course and undoubtedly could add a few more.

We also came up with another interesting statistic in our analysis of these data. On this table (Table III) I have summarized the frequency of commercialization within certain time frames after the expiration of the mandatory 90 days from receipt of the PMN by EPA. As you can see, most companies want to produce and sell their new chemical as soon as possible. We have not had time to analyze these data further but it would be interesting to see if there is any relationship between commercialization time and type of chemical, end use or market, size of company, volume of production, etc.

Now what have we learned about the companies which have submitted these PMNs? Here, on Figure 3, I show the number of PMNs submitted per company as a function of the number of companies for the period from July 1, 1979 through the end of 1981. For example, 61 companies each submitted one PMN, 36 companies submitted two each, and so on. There were 25 companies which submitted more than 10 PMNs each and I can add that the three most prolific developers of new chemicals during this 2 1/2 year period as judged by this yardstick each submitted 60 or more PMNs. With time, this curve is tending to flatten out as more of these companies submit additional PMNs and at a faster rate than new companies enter the PMN area with their first submissions.

Another way of looking at these data is shown on Table IV. For this period 186 different companies submitted a total of 1,056 PMNs. Here you also can see that 6 companies representing only 3% of the total accounted for 289 or 28% of all Table I. Major End Uses for PMN Chemicals Intermediates Polymers for paints and coatings Additives for plastics Additives for lubricants and cutting fluids Dyes, inks and related products Polymers for adhesives Photo products

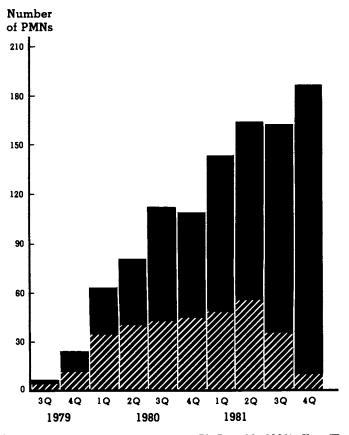


Figure 2. Premanufacture notices (July 1, 1979–Dec. 31, 1981). Key: , total PMNs; and , PMNs for which commercial production has commenced as of March 1, 1981.

Table II. Reasons for Not Commercializing New Chemical Substances

- o cost of raw materials increased to the point where the final product was priced out of the market
- o on scale-up, the product didn't meet
 performance goals
- o awaiting patent clearance before commercial sales begin
- o customer solved his problem and didn't
 need the new product
- o other higher priorities for capital funds forced a delay of this project

Table III. Commercialization Times for New Chemicals

Time Frame	Number of Chemicals (New* Commercialized	% of Total
within 1 month	126		40
1 to 3 months	90		29
3 to 6 months	46		15
over 6 months	51		16
	Total =	312	100

*As of March 1, 1982

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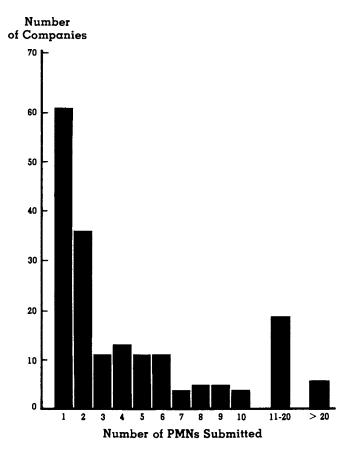


Figure 3. Number of PMNs submitted (total = 1056) vs. number of companies (total = 186) from July 1, 1979 to Dec. 31, 1981.

P	MNs		(Companies
No. per Company	Total <u>No.</u>	% of <u>Total</u>	Number	<u>% of Total</u>
1	61	6	61	33
2 to 5	212	20	71	38
6 to 10	219	20	29	16
11 to 20	275	26	19	10

28

100

_6

186

<u>3</u> 100

289

1,056

Table IV. Premanufacture Notices (7/1/79 to 12/3/81)

over 20

PMNs. Fewer than 15% of the companies submitted over one half of all PMNs.

We attempted to relate the number of PMNs submitted to the size of the submitting company as judged by dollar sales. Our data here are not absolutely firm but I think we are reasonably accurate in the tabulation shown on Table V. We used the total annual sales of a company if it was a wholly-owned subsidiary of a larger company including foreign-owned multinationals. As you might expect our only difficulty in finding these annual sales figures was in the industry segment composed of small, privately-held concerns. For this period the great majority of new chemical substances was developed by the larger manufacturing firms.

So these are the facts. Now what conclusions can one draw. I for one believe these data alone do not permit either of the following conclusions: (1) that small chemical companies do very little development of new chemical substances, or (2) that the PMN requirement of TSCA has seriously hindered small chemical companies in their development of new chemical substances. Additional information is needed before a valid choice can be made between thes two alternative conclusions or even if there is some truth in both.

Jack Yost has just given you a first hand report on how TSCA has affected his company's operations. Also, CSMA recently surveyed their membership on this specific subject, and found that there were two principal reasons for an apparent recent decline in development of new products by small ingredient manufacturing firms. One was the wide misperception in the industry that health and safety testing is required before EPA will process a PMN. Neither the law nor EPA regualtions requires a firm to perform any testing prior to filing or having EPA process a PMN. It is only in those rare cases in which EPA believes there is evidence a new chemical substance could present an unreasonable risk that testing can be required under Section 5(e) of TSCA and commercial production can be delayed. Because a 5(e) order cannot be issued without cause. EPA has taken this action on fewer than 1% of the PMNs submitted.

And, in addition, in anticipation of a possible 5(e) order because of EPA concerns about potentially harmful health or environmental effects, 4 companies have withdrawn their PMNs to develop additional data or discontinue commercialization efforts.

Let me hasten to add here that EPA is not encouraging companies to submit PMNs devoid of data. Quite the contrary. The quality of our risk assessment of a new chemical is directly related to quality and quantity of the health and environmental information we receive from the submitter or are able to obtain from the literature and all under the pressure of a 90 day time limit. Industry understands our position and is responding very well to meet our needs. We are receiving more pertinent data on new chemicals and especially from those companies coming in with

Table V.	Size of	Companies	Submitting	PMNs
(7/1/79 to 12/3/81)				

Company Size* (\$ sales)	Number of PMNs	% of <u>Total</u>
Less than \$10 MM	19	2
\$10 MM to \$100 MM	123	12
\$100 MM to \$500 MM	164	15
Over \$500 MM	750	<u>71</u>
	1,056	100

*includes parent company

In TSCA's Impact on Society and Chemical Industry; Ingle, G.; ACS Symposium Series; American Chemical Society: Washington, DC, 1983. their second, third and subsequent PMNs. Telephone response to our questions during the review period is supportive and gratifying.

A second reason uncovered in the CSMA survey is the substantial cost impact associated with the commercial practice of requiring completion of the PMN process before a customer will accept a new chemical substance for evaluation and product testing. This practice aggravates the first reason and the combination is apparently causing a significant reduction in new product innovation among smaller specialty chemical firms - those with annual sales in excess of \$200 million - are reducing their new product development efforts. And, certainly judging by the past 2 1/2 years of PMN experience, we in EPA corroborate the CSMA findings even though there is no accurate record of performance in pre-TSCA days.

In my own direct contacts with industry, I have heard many times that small firms just don't have the personnel to assemble the pertinent data and fill out the PMN form for a new chemical. So they studiously try to solve their customer problems by using chemicals already on the TSCA Inventory.

Before I pursue this problem any further, let me point out the plus side of this provision of TSCA adding to what was discussed this morning by Ham Hurst. Today, industry leaders generally agree that TSCA is having a positive and beneficial effect on their attitude and behavior toward their manufacture, distribution, processing, use and disposal of chemicals. As Dan Harlow just reported, management is taking a more responsible look at the possible effects of their products on the health of workers and consumers and on the environment. The attitude has changed and that is a prerequisite for achieving the goals of TSCA.

We have no way of knowing just how many really harmful chemicals were kept off the U.S. market since the PMN requirement of TSCA went into effect. We are not even sure that some of the 1,000 plus new chemicals which have passed through the PMN process will not prove 20 or 30 years from how to be serious carcinogens or mutagens. What we do know, however, is that these 1,000 new chemicals have been subjected to a rigorous examination with respect to potential risks to society by both the business community and by the Federal Government.

The Office of Toxic Substances has assembled a team of multidisciplined scientists to review each of these PMNs and assess the potential risks to human health and the environment posed by commercial manufacture and sale. These assessments are based upon limited firm data on the specific chemical, comparison with structurally similar chemicals of known toxicity, plus estimates of exposure from calculations of the potential number of people involved in manufacturing and processing operations and in consumer use. Most PMNs contain elementary data on physical and chemical properties and obvious acute health effect such as skin and eye irritation. We are beginning to receive more information on possible chronic health and even environmental effects particularly from those companies which have submitted several PMNs. Some data on mutagenicity using an Ames Test and indications of persistence in the environment using octanol-water partition coefficients are included.

EPA plans to follow up on selected new chemicals during the commercialization phase. This program will be focused on those chemicals of concern as well as those for which there is uncertainty concerning toxic effects. Unrestricted commercialization could lead to substantial increases in exposure so that it may be necessary to reassess the risk through additional testing. TSCA grants EPA the authority to do so under Sections 5(a)(2) and 8(a) but voluntary action will be sought where appropriate.

I think it is very safe to say that this risk assessment process for new chemicals was never applied so thoroughly in pre-TSCA days and in this respect TSCA is meeting one of its major goals.

But as with any government regulation, there is an accompanying cost to society to achieve these benefits and the Congress was particularly concerned with the potential inhibiting effect of TSCA on innovation in the chemical industry. Regulatory costs are more easily borne by established commercial chemicals than by speculative new chemicals whose commercial future is in doubt. On the other hand, Congress recognized that any preventive regulatory action of TSCA with respect to hazardous new chemicals entering the marketplace can be achieved with less cost to industry in terms of loss of jobs, profit and capital investment.

Under the new administration, this section of TSCA has come under the scrutiny of Vice President Bush's task force on regulatory relief and the Office of Toxic Substances is placing a high priority on efforts to develop more cost-effective means for achieving industry compliance with OTS policies. In addition to fostering voluntary actions by industry wherever possible in lieu of formal rules, these effects include elimination of unnecessary burdens on industry in complying with mandated TSCA requirements.

Beginning with PMN forms, our current plans are to require only that information clearly spelled out in the statute with all other information being optional. Our experience with submitters to date is that informal requests for additional information have generally proved adequate for our risk assessment needs so we will continue to rely on this approach. This should clear up the uncertainty on the PMN review process and reduce the burden on industry.

The Office of Toxic Substances is devoting substantial resources to issuing exemptions to PMN requirements which should still further reduce the regulatory burden. Naturally, these exemptions will cover only those new chemicals which are expected to pose no unreasonable risk to health or the environment. As you heard this morning from David Zoll of CMA, we are approaching this Table VI. Program to Minimize Negative Impact of TSCA on New Product Innovation by the Chemical Industry

EPA

- 1- Promulgate concise and simple rules for PMN information requirements
- 2- Promulgate rules exempting from PMN requirements certain classes of chemicals considered to pose no unreasonable risks to health and environment, e.g.
 - o high MW polymers
 - o site-limited intermediates
 - o low volume chemicals
- 3- Provide and publicize information consulting services to industry for preparing PMNs

Industry

- 1- Take advantage of EPA's flexible treatment of PMN informational needs for risk assessment
- 2- Take greater advantage of EPA assistance in planning and preparing PMNs

Joint EPA and Industry

1- Conduct a wide-ranging campaign to educate small business firms about PMN requirements and available assistance services. regulatory relief in cooperation with industry and public interest groups on several specific proposals made by industry. These include certain high molecular weight polymers, site - limited or captive intermediates, and some relatively low production volume cut-off. Some way of reducing the mandatory 90 days reporting requirement is also being explored which could materially benefit the small chemical concern primarily in toll business and customer problem-solving.

So my message to the chemical industry broadly and in particular to the segment of small businesses is to not let the PMN requirements limit your creative spirit in the development and commercialization of new chemicals. The Office of Toxic Substances in EPA stands ready to assist you at no cost in filling out the forms and distinguishing clearly what is minimally essential for risk assessment purposes from what is optional. We have trained consultants in the northeastern and mid-west sections of the country ready to travel to your location and advise you in a confidential way on PMNs. Our staff in Washington can be immensely helpful and you should feel free to discuss your specific situation with them. And, to top it off, we have one recentlyretired experienced chemcial industry man concentrating his entire effort to assist the small business man in any TSCA-related matter. His name is Dr. Bob Toomey; give him a call on the Industry Assistance Office toll-free line.

I have discussed this concern of EPA on the possible negative impact of TSCA on product innovation with many people and groups representing different segments of the chemical industry. You heard Carl Umland this morning on this same subject and there is agreement that something can and should be done. From the government perspective, the following program makes sense and we intend to pursue it aggressively (Table VI).

Simplified notification rules are a must and this is a high priority item. I mentioned earlier our efforts to develop helpful exemptions to PMN requirements under section 5(h)4 of the Act and several proposals are being readied for publication and comment. And this action is important for EPA to provide direct assistance to small business concerns in preparing PMNs.

We would like to encourage the industry to submit PMNs and have companies work closely with us to assess potential risks. This can be done without great expense to manufacturers. And, finally, a well-organized and continuing joint industry-EPA program to help small business understand TSCA and ease the reporting burden would go a long way to encourage the development of new chemical products by the chemical industry.

RECEIVED January 17, 1983

Future for Innovation

CARL W. UMLAND

Exxon Chemical Americas, Houston, TX 77001

Chemicals have traditionally stimulated technological progress and contributed substantially to our quality of life. The U.S. chemical industry has been highly innovative in the past. The legislative history of the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) demonstrates Congressional concern that the economic impact of the Premanufacture Notification (PMN) process could unduly interfere with the innovative capacity of a dynamic contributor to the economy. At the same time, the Act was to assure that innovation and commerce in chemical substances do not present an unreasonable risk of injury to health or the environment. After five years of TSCA and nearly three years of PMN activity, some evidence based on actual PMN experience has emerged which suggests substantial disruption of new chemical development and introduction. This appears to be largely a consequence of higher costs and uncertainty engendered by the PMN process at an economically vulnerable point in the life cycle of innovative products. Reassessment of the process seeking a more appropriate balance between opportunity for economic viability and protection from unreasonable risk for innovative chemicals is indicated. An intelligent and pragmatic application of TSCA exemption authority to well-defined low risk situations offers significant hope for improvement in the outlook for chemical innovation within the spirit of TSCA but well short of laissez faire "business as usual".

The chemical industry is linked to virtually every segment of the American economy as shown in Figure 1. Chemicals are used by other industries as feedstocks, cleaners, additives, and processing aids for a wide range of products and industrial processes. The chemical industry also provides consumer products directly. These range from soaps and detergents to ink and paint. The effects of chemical innovations, then, are felt far beyond the chemical industry.

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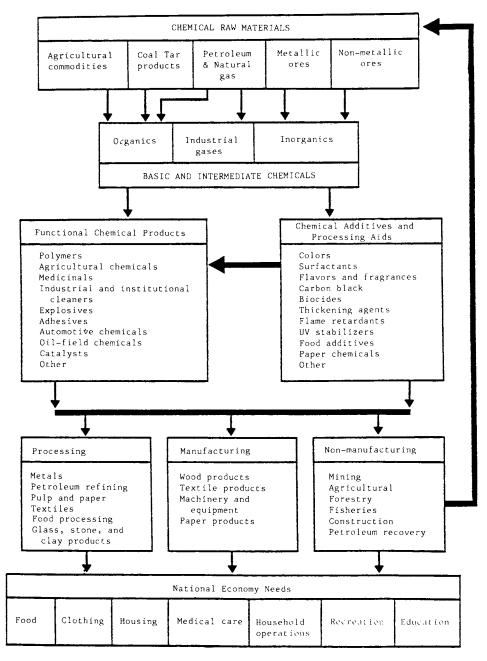


Figure 1. Materials and product flow of chemical industry. (Reproduced with permission from Ref. 13. Copyright 1980, C. H. Kline & Co.)

3. UMLAND Future for Innovation

Even individual segments of the chemical industry have a very large economic importance. As one example, an Arthur D. Little study has estimated that 23 percent of all business sales, 16 percent of all capital investment and 19 percent of total non-government related jobs are dependent on the production of petrochemicals (1). According to this study, 35 to 45 percent of United States business activity is directly or indirectly affected by the American petrochemical industry.

The Nature and Process of Chemicals Innovation

Industry's concern over the potentially stifling impact of TSCA's PMN process on innovation derives from the nature of new chemicals commercial development. Technological progress usually consists of a series of small innovations which must survive the test of the open market. Increased costs, especially in the initial stages, can easily put an innovation at a fatal disadvantage in competing with established products. PMN costs could stop the process by which small, individual innovations contribute to significant technological changes.

New chemicals must have time to prove themselves in the marketplace. Often, the true value of an innovation is not known for many years after its introduction. The initial use of a new product is industry's opportunity to appreciate the chemical's properties and explore its potential. A new chemical often initially produced in small quantities, may become a large scale venture after many years with significant and occasionally unanticipated applications.

PMN costs could choke innovation at its most vulnerable stage. A new product must have "breathing room" in which to test its potential for growth. Decisions to discontinue research and development on many chemicals because of higher costs could reduce major technological breakthroughs in the future.

Innovation particularly in small volume chemicals often depends on a quick reaction to market opportunities and low costs. Six major characteristics of the chemical innovation process for small volume chemicals lead to this conclusion.

Small volume chemicals are often brought into the market quickly. Chemical specialties especially are created and marketed to meet an immediate need. A delay in a chemical's introduction could mean that the user would seek materials elsewhere and certain market opportunities would be lost.

Some chemicals sold in small volumes cannot withstand a lengthy research and development process. Large R&D costs would be spread over too low a sales volume to allow the product to compete with existing chemicals. Only those which are obviously essential or obviously provide significant technological advance can support high initial costs. Delays in developing a new product significantly increase development costs. In reviewing the PMN requirements, the Council on Wage and Price Stability using a 10-percent discount rate, observed that the cost to the firm of a six-month delay was about five percent of the R&D investment (2).

<u>Small volume chemicals are an extremely important part of chemical substances.</u> Production data reported to EPA suggest this strongly. In Congressional testimony, then EPA Assistant Administrator Steven Jellinek reported that about 70 percent of the chemicals in the EPA inventory are produced in quantities under 100,000 pounds per year, 50 percent are under 10,000 pounds and 30 percent are under 1,000 pounds (3).

A further example is the testimony of the Reilly Tar and Chemical Corporation which reported that 51 percent of its pilot plant (newly introduced) products had annual sales volumes under 50 kilograms while only 17 percent had sales over 1,000 kilograms (4).

The sales of many new chemicals remain small for several years after introduction and about half of new chemicals are discontinued because they are not commercially viable. The chemical group of the Ansul Company provided a useful example in its November 1979 comments on Premanufacture Notification of how the sales volume of one of its typical chemical products grew from 1,000 pounds to only 10,000 pounds in five years (5).

Changes in demand, breakthroughs by competing companies, fluctuations in the price or availability of raw materials and faulty original estimates can all cause a product to fail. Such market performance dramatizes the uncertainty of marketing new products. Indeed, experience has shown that about half of new commercial ventures fail.

Important uses for new chemical substances have often been discovered many years after their commercial introduction. Some of today's most important chemicals, such as resins or plastics were commercially unimportant when they were first introduced. The original uses of new chemicals are slowly supplanted by new applications which increase their production. Therefore, a new chemical must remain commercially viable long enough for new uses to be discovered.

Teflon Fluorocarbon Resin, for instance was discovered in 1938. The substance was produced on a small scale throughout World War II for defense applications. It became commercially available in 1948, but did not gain public recognition until 1961 when it was used as a lining for nonstick frying pans. Today, Teflon coats chemical process equipment, insulates electrical equipment, coats the blades of tools, protects buildings from earthquakes and is used as a material in automobiles, pianos, missiles and spacecraft. Most of these uses were unknown when Teflon was invented.

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The development costs of most new chemicals cannot be readily passed on to consumers. At the time of their introduction, most new chemicals represent a minor improvement over existing materials. Customers must believe that the product is less expensive or more efficient than the existing product. Only then will the new product have an opportunity to expand its role in the economy.

Even small increases in price could eliminate the advantage that a new product might enjoy over its already established rivals. Higher prices coupled with the uncertain performance of a new product and lack of customer familiarity with the chemical may deter customers from buying the new material. Thus, an increase in cost generally will not be reflected in a higher price, but in a decision by the manufacturer to forego production.

One major chemical specialty company, for instance, uses a 10-percent product improvement as its criterion for determining whether to market a new product. That is, the product must have a 10-percent improvement in performance at the same price or the same performance at a 10-percent cost reduction. From its experience, the company knows that a new product will not be accepted in this company's markets without such an improvement.

For this company, a typical chemical's cost is about 50 cents per pound. The firm generally assumes no more than a three-year marketing lifetime for its type of new chemicals.

If one then assumes that the corporation has to recover its PMN costs during the lifetime of a chemical, the percentage increase in cost can be calculated for different PMN costs as shown in Table I.

Table I. Product Cost Increase

	PMN Filing Cost			
Annual Production	\$200	\$2000	\$7000	\$15000
2500 Lbs.		50%	187%	400%
25000 Lbs.	0.5%	5%	19%	40%
100000 Lbs.	0.1%	1%	5%	10%

One can readily see the intense volume and PMN cost sensitivity over and above this company's own decision criteria of a 10% improvement over existing products before consideration for marketing. Thus, the hurdle level created by PMN costs can be far greater than a company's original decision criterion and the chances for small volume substances being brought forward are reduced. Obviously, with longer product life the effect would be less dramatic but no less real.

The cost of developing a new chemical will not be spread over the manufacturer's product line. As a general rule, no company will intentionally begin a venture unless it believes that the venture will recover its investment and make a profit. If a manufacturer does not believe that the product will generate an acceptable return on investment, the company will invest its funds elsewhere. Any other approach would be uneconomic and would eventually harm the company.

Product failures, on the other hand, become a fixed cost to the company and must be recovered through higher prices for other products if the firm is to remain viable. Thus, there is an increased incentive to avoid the economic uncertainty of innovation.

According to the Council on Wage and Price stability "Studies of business innovation suggest that over the long term companies treat their research and development budgets like other investments and adjust R&D expenditures so that the return is comparable to that earned on other corporate investments", (2).

TSCA Impact on Innovation

We now have nearly three years of PMN experience. An analysis of both the number and the character of new substances introduction as represented by PMN filings suggests that there has indeed been a substantial negative impact on chemicals innovation. This observation is bolstered by a broad variety of studies and surveys which are highlighted in what follows. Limited information exists on the rate of new product

introductions before TSCA. Arthur D. Little, Inc. estimated that 1,000 commercial new chemicals were introduced each year, (6). An earlier study by Foster D. Snell, based on expert industry opinion, found that 2,220 successful new substances were introduced each year between 1969 and 1974 out of over 5,000 offered for customer evaluation. National Economic Research Associates, Inc. (NERA) estimated that about 1,700 new chemical substances were sold commercially each year (based on a small sample and accurate only within a broad range but consistent in order of magnitude) (7), Nevertheless, the introduction of new commercial chemical substances as measured by PMNs submitted apparently has fallen from between 1,000 and 2,200 annually to somewhere around 600-700 in the latest 12-months. Without trying to be precise, it can be seen that there has been an apparent drop in new substance introduction in the order of 35-70 percent. This is even more sobering when it is realized that about one-third of PMN chemicals have actually entered commerce based on a more detailed presentation of the PMN statistics by EPA's D. G. Bannerman.

However, for the purposes of this discussion, one can observe that of the more than 1,000 PMNs submitted, over 90% are from large companies. Furthermore, estimated first year production volumes have steadily moved away from low volume chemicals. Arthur D. Little, Inc. estimated that prior to the PMN requirement about 70 percent of commercial new chemicals were produced in quantities under 1,000 pounds per year and all R&D chemicals were below this level (<u>6</u>). When the PMN requirements went into effect, however, that proportion fell to 33 percent almost immediately and has since declined to only 11 percent, based on a look at the first 723 PMNs. This can also be compared with the 30 percent of commercial chemicals on the TSCA inventory with an annual production volume of less than 1,000 pounds.

Figure 2 illustrates the decline in the distribution of low volume chemicals between 1978 and October 1981 rather dramatically.

The samples show that PMN requirements have changed the way that companies do business and that there are fewer chemicals with small production volumes being introduced. The decline in the production of new, small volume chemicals suggests that chemical companies are now concentrating on products that have ready markets.

The smaller chemical specialty manufacturers have been hurt the most. A recent study commissioned by the Chemical Specialty Manufacturers Association indicates that while new substance development fell 26 percent among chemical specialty manufacturers, 98 percent of the decline was concentrated among ingredient suppliers with less than \$100 million of annual sales (8). Although the general economic climate may have

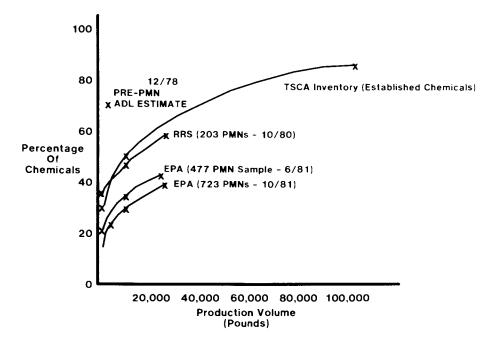


Figure 2. Distribution of established chemicals and first-year chemical production under PMNs.

contributed to some of this decline, it does not explain why such a disproportionate share of the drop should settle upon small companies.

The drop in innovation was most pronounced in the more financially risky types of chemicals. Innovations aimed at the general chemical market without defined applications declined 38 percent while chemical innovations manufactured at specific customer request fell only 14 percent.

The reduction in innovation because of financial risk was predictable. From studies for EPA by Arthur D. Little, one would have estimated a 50-percent reduction associated with a \$12,000 PMN cost (6). The significance of $$12,000 \text{ derives from a study by the Regulatory Research Service (RRS) (9).$

RRS assessed the cost of completing the PMN form by examining the costs that companies actually incurred in performing this task. RRS sent a questionnaire to all companies known to have filed a PMN form. In addition, RRS examined EPA's public files on the PMNs it has received. Average costs are shown in Table II.

Table II. PMN Filing Costs

(PER RRS)

DOLLARS

Mean Total Filing Cost	7 500
Economic Burden of Intermediates	2300
Economic Burden of Adverse PMNs	2200
	12000

Intermediates don't often reach the marketplace but do require a PMN under TSCA. Similarly, many chemicals apparently had PMNs filed to be ready for manufacture/marketing but then failed to make it through the business decision process for other reasons.

The \$12,000-cost of filing a PMN is still a conservative figure. The additional cost of customers requiring a PMN on developmental material would add another \$10,000 to the cost of a PMN. Such costs are beginning to appear and are becoming significant in some segments of the chemical industry, but are not included in this cost calculation. In addition, the RRS figure does not include a provision for commercial ventures which fail after the chemical enters the marketplace.

The Future for Innovation

The situation described up to this point is distressing and needful of remedy. However, we've only addressed the economic part of the equation. We also have to consider what kind of risk to health or the environment has been represented by the PMNs submitted to date.

Fortunately, that experience has been assessed and found to offer a reasonable basis for a change in course. Recent statements by EPA officials point the way to a potential for relief.

Mr. Don Clay, Director of the Office of Toxic Substances, discussed the premanufacture review procedures and experience with PMNs to date at a meeting of the Organization for Economic Cooperation on Development (OECD) Chemicals Forum in December, (10). He noted that EPA's chemistry, toxicology, and exposure assessment teams normally complete their preliminary evaluation within a week of receipt of a PMN, and, that preliminary assessment eliminates about 50 percent of the substances as chemicals of low concern. They then proceed to structure activity analysis and reasonable worst case assumptions to assess unreasonable risk or the need for more data.

The results of that process were commented on by Dr. John Todhunter, EPA's Assistant Administrator for the Office of Pesticides and Toxic Substances (OPTS) in a speech delivered in Rome to representatives of some of our European trading partners (11). He was commenting on the small amount of toxicity data submitted with many of the PMNs submitted to date. He pointed out that EPA's experience shows that to be due largely to the inherently low hazard potential of the bulk of the substances submitted for PMN review. His evidence was the fact of no imminent hazard actions (Section 5(f)) and inadequate information actions (Section 5(e)) on only 9 chemicals out of over 1,000 PMNs submitted. He further noted that in 60 cases, industry had volunteered more data, reduced exposures, or withdrawn PMNs. Dr. Todhunter's conclusion from all this was that industry is doing an effective job of screening substances before submitting PMNs.

The Chemical Manufacturers Association (CMA) had reached similar conclusions about a year ago and filed a petition with EPA suggesting that there was a strong case to be made for exemptive relief under Section 5 (h)(4) of TSCA for many polymers, site-limited intermediates, and chemicals produced in volumes of less than 25,000 pounds per year. (An examination of the effect of PMN costs at various prices and levels of production reveals that the PMN cost, as a percentage of total cost per pound of product, generally rises most rapidly as output falls below 25,000 pounds. See the Appendix for a more detailed discussion.) It is CMA's firm belief that exemption could be granted in terms that would operate to assure "no unreasonable risk" to the public in terms of either health or the environment.

Subsequent open discussions with EPA have proven helpful to an understanding of how such an exemption might be granted with adequate safeguards to operate effectively. As a result, there is a ray of hope that EPA will soon propose an exemption rule for public comment as a first step to a sound and rational correction of the undue inhibition of chemicals innovation which has occurred over the past three years.

Impact of an Exemption

Most polymers are inherently non-toxic and can be sufficiently defined to present no unreasonable risk. Site-limited intermediates have limited exposure potential by definition which together with chronic hazard control language will present no unreasonable risk but will result in real economic savings.

A 25,000-pound per year production rate is not a demarcation between large and small ventures. Such a point would be at a far higher scale of production. Instead, the proposed 25,000-pound exemption represents an economically-justified and virtually risk-free means of aiding innovation in the chemical industry, particularly when coupled with appropriate chronic hazard control language as for intermediates.

In fact, chemicals produced in quantities of 25,000 pounds or less per year comprise a negligible proportion of chemical output. Chemicals listed in the TSCA inventory had a combined production of nearly 4.1 trillion pounds in 1980. Chemicals that have production volumes under 100,000 pounds per year contribute only 0.006 percent to the total (12). A 25,000pound exemption, then, would free an insignificant proportion of chemical production from reporting requirements.

Conclusion

With such exemptions, innovative chemicals can be produced to explore the commercial market and to test product viability. Knowledge of their economics and potential for different applications can be expanded. These exemptions will lessen the cost of market failures. Successful chemicals will not have to bear the additional PMN cost of unsuccessful market tests. As new substances demonstrate their value to society and find a secure place in the market, they can then begin to absorb some of the costs associated with the PMN requirements. There would indeed be a chance for regaining much of the strength of an innovative chemical industry with all of its attendant benefits to society within the context of TSCA and the intent of Congress' expression of the will of the American public when it it was passed with the support of the chemical industry in 1976. Literature Cited

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APPENDIX

Rationale for Exempting Substances When

25,000 Pounds a Year or Less are Produced

Precedents for a 25,000-Pound Exemption

EPA has used a 25,000-pound exemption in its regulations governing recordkeeping in the management of hazardous waste under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA). The regulations list particular wastes as "hazardous" and establish standards that the generators of such wastes must observe.

The regulations provide a recordkeeping exemption for hazardous wastes created by a "small quantity generator". Such a generator is defined as one who creates less than 1,000 kilograms of hazardous waste per month. Since 1,000 kilograms equals approximately 2,200 pounds, the regulation effectively reduces the recordkeeping burden of firms that generate hazardous wastes in quantities of 25,000 pounds per year or less. If 25,000 pounds is too small a quantity of hazardous waste to bear careful scrutiny under RCRA, a 25,000-pound PMN exemption for low-toxicity chemical production is surely justified.

Moreover, the EPA Office of Pesticides and Toxic Substances has grouped pesticide active ingredients into three different categories based on production and exposure potential. One of EPA's three categories consists of "low" production pesticides. The Agency defined this category as an annual production volume of 25,000 pounds or less.

EPA's use of a 25,000-pound exemption (actually a 26,400-pound exemption) for hazardous waste recordkeeping and its definition of 25,000 pounds as low-level pesticide production indicate that EPA believes this volume of chemicals does not present a significant risk. A relatively safe substance produced in a volume of 25,000 pounds or less per year, then, would pose virtually no risk. Such an exemption from the PMN requirements would be reasonable.

Economic Burden of the PMN Requirement on Production Costs

A 25,000-pound annual production volume exemption is also a rational point at which to establish an exemption economically. Such an exemption would sharply reduce the economic impact of PMN requirements while protecting the public from unreasonable risk.

Presently, the cost of filling out a PMN form adds significantly to the unit cost of producing a small volume

substance. As previously discussed, these costs frequently cannot be passed on to customers because of competition from existing products. At low levels of output, the additional cost per pound of substance rises dramatically.

Figure A shows the impact of \$12,000 PMN-cost on the per pound cost of producing a substance at low levels of output. A substance which would normally cost 25 cents per pound experiences a 20 percent cost increase at a production rate of 60,000 pounds per year. Costs rise by 32 percent if only 40,000 pounds per year are produced annually. Below 25,000 pounds of output, the percentage increase in cost per pound begins to rise almost vertically on the scale.

The impact on cost at 50 cents a pound is similar. The per pound cost increases by 16 percent at 40,000 pounds of output per year, 26 percent at 25,000 pounds per year, and 64 percent at 10,000 pounds per year. Again, the cost impact becomes increasingly severe at the lowest levels of production.

The effect is much the same at costs of \$1 and \$2 per pound. The cost increase becomes increasingly dramatic as the production level decreases. As Figure A shows, however, the PMN-cost impact begins to weigh most heavily on each pound of a substance at a level between 20,000 pounds per year and 60,000 pounds per year, depending on the cost of the product. At 25 cents per pound, costs begin to rise rapidly under 60,000 pounds of output, while at \$2 per pound the most rapid cost increases occur under 20,000 pounds of production.

Many commercial chemicals sell for under \$1 per pound. At \$1 per pound costs begin to escalate most rapidly under 25,000 pounds of output. An exemption, then, should not be set at less than 25,000 pounds per year to minimize the cost of PMN forms on innovative chemical products.

Even the spot price of most chemicals is under \$2 per pound. Spot prices on September 28, 1981, as published by the <u>Chemical Marketing Reporter</u>, indicated that of 2,684 chemicals sold by the pound or kilogram, 1,516 or 56 percent were priced below \$2 per pound. About 39 percent were priced below \$1 per pound, 19 percent were below 50 cents per pound and 4 percent were below 25 cents per pound. Such prices tend to be higher than the long-term contract prices under which chemicals are usually sold. Thus, the curves in Figure A show the applicable range of costs and output.

A lower exemption, 1,000 kilograms for instance, would create an unnecessary impediment to innovation. New chemicals would face an almost insurmountable cost barrier to expanded production. The barrier would be much lower with a 25,000-pound per year exemption. Innovation is not just the discovery and testing of new products, but also those products' acceptance on a commercial scale and at a competitive price. The impact of PMNs on the cost of chemical substances was calculated using a

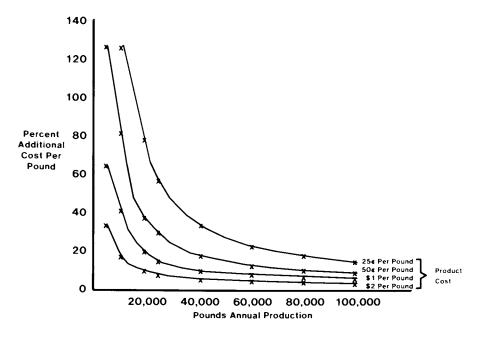


Figure A. Additional cost of PMN requirement as a function of annual production rate.

\$12,000-cost for each PMN. This cost appears to be an accurate estimate because the Regulatory Research Service derived it from actual company experience in filing PMNs.

Companies were assumed to recover the PMN costs over five years. Most new products have very short lifetimes. Five years is reasonable.

The additional income required each year to recover the entire cost was derived by calculating the cash flow necessary to bring the net present value of PMN costs up to zero. A 10-percent discount rate was used in all calculations. The resulting annual cash flow was then divided by the pounds of output per year. Percentage changes were used to illustrate the relative burden of PMN costs.

Different assumptions yield similar results. Figure B illustrates the impact of assuming a \$7,500 PMN-cost, a 15-percent discount rate, and either a three-year or ten-year payback period. The chemical cost is assumed to be \$1 per pound.

Again, PMN costs begin to weigh heavily between 20,000 and 40,000 pounds of annual output. Under 20,000 or 25,000 pounds, the cost burden rises dramatically.

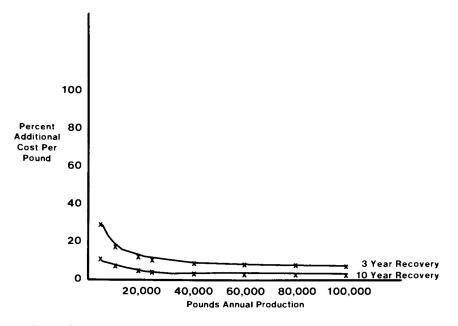


Figure B. Additional cost of PMN requirement as a function of annual production rate using the following assumptions: base product cost, \$1/lb; PMN cost, \$7500; and discount rate, 15%.

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Harmonizing the Regulation of New Chemicals in the United States and in the European Economic Community

BLAKE A. BILES

Jones, Day, Reavis, & Pogue, Washington, DC 20006

In the late 1970's, both the United States and the European Economic Community (EEC) enacted laws -- TSCA and the Sixth Amendment respectively -- that require companies to notify the government before they commercialize new chemicals. Although these notification programs are similar in many respects, their enactment and initial implementation(2) have highlighted significant inconsistencies and, in a few cases, direct conflicts. As a result, governments and industry on both sides of the Atlantic have focused considerable attention upon the issue of "harmonizing" the two regulatory approaches, particularly to reduce any non-tariff trade barriers that otherwise might occur.

This paper discusses and compares the U.S. and EEC requirements for new chemicals, including efforts to achieve harmony between the two notification programs.

REGULATION OF NEW SUBSTANCES UNDER TSCA AND THE SIXTH AMENDMENT

This part compares basic provisions of the U.S. premanufacture and the EEC premarket notification programs.(3)

Section 5 of TSCA, (4) "Manufacturing and processing notices," establishes the U.S. premanufacture notification program. Sections 3, 8(a)&(b), 15-17, and 19 also are important.

Articles 5-8 and Annexes VII and VIII in the Sixth Amendment(5) contain the key provisions of the EEC's premarket notification program. Articles 2, 9-13, and 20-23 also are particularly relevant.

Basic Framework and Scope

Persons and Activities Covered. TSCA § 5 creates a premanufacture notification program, whereas the Sixth Amendment requires the submittal of premarket notifications. Thus, U.S. PMN's must be submitted no later than 90 days prior to the completion of R&D activities, unless EPA grants permission to produce limited amounts for test marketing purposes. In contrast, companies in

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the EEC may manufacture, process, or otherwise produce new substances before submitting PMN's, provided they file the PMN's prior to actually marketing the substances in the Community.

However, the two laws are similar in that they both apply to imported substances. In addition, they apply only to the production and marketing of new substances for commercial purposes.(6)

Under TSCA, the first company that intends to manufacture a new substance in the U.S. must submit a PMN for that substance. However, once EPA completes its 90-day review of the PMN, and after that company begins to manufacture the substance for non-R&D purposes, the substance becomes an "existing" chemical in this country. This means that, in the future, neither the PMN submitter nor any other company will be required to submit any further PMN's for that substance, irrespective of any significant changes in production volume or use, and whether any new toxicity data are developed at a later date.(7)

The Sixth Amendment's premarket notification requirements differ markedly from TSCA in three important respects. First, new substances in the EEC always will be considered "new" under the Sixth Amendment, because the notification requirements are personspecific -- i.e. when one company submits a PMN for a particular substance, this does not relieve any other company from the requirement to submit its own PMN before that second company may place the same substance on the EEC market.(8) Second, the Directive includes a scheme for regular follow-up reporting on the commercial development of new substances, with progressively more extensive (and expensive) testing requirements. Finally, the Sixth Amendment creates a one-time notification for each company (for each new substance), throughout the EEC. Thus, once a Member State has completed its review of a company's PMN (without taking any action to require further testing or to impose limitations upon production or use), that company is not required to provide a PMN to any other EEC country in which it subsequently markets the substance.(9)

<u>Chemicals covered</u>. Both laws exclude certain categories of chemicals from their PMN requirements, primarily those substances that are covered by other existing health and environmental laws. These include pesticides, drugs and medicinal products, and radioactive materials.(10)

In addition to these general exclusions, neither TSCA nor the Sixth Amendment require PMN's for new mixtures or preparations, which generally are defined as combinations of substances that do not result from chemical reactions. However, both laws effectively require PMN's for the marketing of new mixtures that are new (in part) because they contain new substances.(11)

Finally, both laws provided general exemptions for (commercial) R&D substances. To qualify, companies must comply with certain statutory limitations concerning production volume, use, and (in the case of the EEC) numbers of customers.(12)

TSCA itself does not explicitly exempt any other categories of chemicals. However, in its rules and policy guidance to

date, EPA has excluded a majority of site-limited intermediates. Further, the Agency presently is developing rules under (1,1) to exclude most polymers, the remaining site-limited intermediates, and a broad category(ies) of low-volume substances. EPA also has indicated its willingness to entertain petitions for similar exemptions (either chemical-specific or for general categories) from the PMN requirements.

Because the Sixth Amendment itself exempts most of the chemicals that are subject to EPA's current rulemaking, in general the Commission does not need to commence any exemption activities analogous to EPA's efforts. Thus, the EEC's premarket program covers only those new polymers that contain 2% or more of a monomer(s). (Any new monomer <u>is</u> subject to the notification requirements.) Further, because PMN's must be submitted only for new substances that are "placed on the [Community] market," the EEC's PMN requirements generally do not apply to the manufacture and use of intermediates (or of any other new substances, for that matter) by one company at one site.(13)

Likewise, the Sixth Amendment differs substantially from TSCA in its exemption for "substances placed on the market in quantities of less than one tonne per year per manufacturer." Art. 8(1). This exemption is person-specific, but contains no time limitations -- i.e. a manufacturer may qualify for the exemption and thus avoid the PMN requirements indefinitely, so long as the company does not market more than one tonne annually.(14). This low volume exemption is contingent upon the manufacturer providing a limited notice to each Member State in which the substance is marketed, and complying "with any conditions imposed by those authorities" in the various Member States.

Neither TSCA nor the Sixth Amendment exclude or exempt substances from the PMN requirements just because they are produced by small companies. However, many of the exemptions presently being considered by EPA, and several of those contained in the Sixth Amendment, mitigate the burdens that the PMN programs otherwise impose upon small companies. This is particularly true for exemptions based upon production or marketing volume.

<u>Preemption</u>. Unlike most other U.S. environmental laws, TSCA is administered and enforced exclusively by EPA. None of its rulemaking or compliance activities are delegated to the States, and TSCA rules generally preempt any comparable state (or local) laws and regulations.(15)

In contrast, as a Directive by the EEC Council to the Member States, the Sixth Amendment is not self-implementing, and it is not directly enforceable against individual companies. Rather, each EEC country must implement its own premarket notification laws, regulations, and administrative provisions. These must be consistent with the overall framework of the Sixth Amendment, and they must not create the types of conflicts or intra-EEC barriers that the Directive was intended to prevent in the first place. Nonetheless, they may be different from one another, to reflect local policies and approaches to specific regulatory matters. Initial premarket implementation activities have demonstrated that this construct of one overriding directive implemented through ten national laws and regulations creates many technical, scientific, and legal problems for companies intending to market new substances in the Community. Further, in contrast to most other Council directives (including the other ones dealing with health and environmental matters), successful implementation of the EEC's PMN program may require the development of definitive EEC-wide guidance on a number of critical matters.(16)

Contents of PMN's, Including Testing

Testing and Other Risk Data.(17) TSCA § 5(d)(1)(B)&(C) required each PMN to contain any (i.e. all) health and environmental effects data that the notice submitter has in his "possession or control," as well as a "description" of other data that are "known to or reasonably ascertainable" by him. Thus, a company must provide EPA all test data that it has developed or otherwise obtained concerning its new chemical, and must inform the Agency concerning any other similar data of which it is aware. However, TSCA does not require companies to perform tests or otherwise develop specific data, as a prerequisite to the submission of PMN's.(18)

To date, EPA has done three things to encourage and, in some limited cases, require companies to test their new substances.(19) First, from time to time EPA has issued reports, published speeches, prepared Congressional testimony, and otherwise publicized its view that many PMN's lack necessary data to adequately assess the subject chemicals' health and environmental effects. Second, on a PMN-by-PMN basis EPA has negotiated with individual companies to provide additional data and analyses. And third, EPA has initiated actions under § 5(e) to require additional testing for a very small number of new substances (and to limit or totally prohibit production and use of these chemicals).(20)

The Sixth Amendent is considerably different from TSCA concerning its requirements for companies to develop toxicity information and other test data on their new chemicals. In general, PMN's in the EEC must include the results of a required base set of tests concerning physicochemical properties, acute toxicity, screening for carcinogenicity and mutagenicity, and sub-acute toxicity. Subsequent follow-up reports may trigger additional testing requirements involving sub-chronic and chronic tests for long-term health and environmental effects. The testing provisions do not contain decision criteria or other rules for determining specific testing programs. Further, the Directive includes language that may enable companies to avoid testing in certain circumstances.

Article 6(1) states that each PMN must include a "technical dossier" which supplies "the information necessary for evaluating the foreseeable risk, whether immediate or delayed, which the substance may entail for man and the environment." This includes the results of the studies referred to in Annex VII, together with a detailed and full description of the studies conducted and of the methods used or a bibliographical reference to them . . .

Annex VII specifies six categories of information, four of which are particularly relevant as a "base set": Category 1 - Identity of the Substance; Category 3 - Physico-Chemical Properties of the Substance; Category 4 - Toxicological Studies; (21) and Category 5 - Ecotoxicological Studies. Within each of these categories, the Annex lists specific information requirements that must be met.(22)

Neither Article 6(1) nor Annex VII contain any exemptions from the need to perform the entire battery of base set tests. However, the introductory language to the Annex contains an "escape clause" for mitigating the testing requirements for particular substances (or classes of substances): "If it is not technically possible or if it does not appear necessary to give information, the reasons shall be stated." Although neither the Commission nor individual countries have issued any guidance concerning how this particular language will be applied, it is most likely that countries will require any justifications (not to test) to be based upon technical and scientific rationales, rather than economic and other commercial considerations.(23)

Both the Sixth Amendment and several national premarket laws and regulations authorize individual Member States to (1) contest companies' claims that certain data (in the Annex VII base set) are not necessary or are not technologically possible; (2) to require the development of additional information and data; and (3) to impose production or use restrictions pending the development of such additional data. Further, EEC countries may act without having to follow many of the procedures that TSCA imposes upon EPA, and the findings necessary to take these actions appear to be less stringent than TSCA requires of the Agency.

Under Article 7(1), if the country that receives a notification concludes that further data and information are needed for performing health and environmental assessments of the new substance, it may require the notice submitter to provide those data. This may involve completion of the Annex VII "base set" (for PMN's that invoke the "escape clause"), and/or performance of further tests specified in Annex VIII, in addition to those contained in Annex VII.(24) Annex VIII specifies a series of sub-chronic and chronic tests, as well as other extensive (and expensive) data requirements that may be required as a part of followup notifications once a chemical enters commercial production and its production volume increases substantially.

The Sixth Amendment does not elaborate upon either the substantive or procedural aspects of this authority. Rather, it simply states that if a country can justify the need for the data (in terms of risk assessment), it may ask for the additional information. Further, the Directive is silent upon the relationship between this request for additional information (and any response by the notifier to the request), and the running of the 45-day premarket review period.

Taken in conjunction with the "escape clause" in Annex VII (which also appears in Annex VIII), this general authority to request further information and data appears to give the Member States considerable discretion and flexibility in their review of PMN's and their negotiations with individual companies. Over time, this could lead to significant differences between the PMN requirements which companies actually face in the various EEC Member States.

Information Concerning Production, Use, and Commercial Development. TSCA § 5(d)(1)(A) requires each PMN to include information concerning the new substance's (proposed) categories of use, production volumes (by category of use), byproducts from production and use, estimated exposure to workers, and disposal methods. As with toxicity data, this production and use information must be provided only to the extent that it is "known to or reasonably ascertainable" by the notice submitter. Because the PMN is submitted prior to manufacture for non-R&D purposes, most of this information will be prospective in nature, and it therefore will be expressed either in estimated ranges (where it is quantifiable at all) or in other, more qualitative terms.(25)

Article 6(1) of the Sixth Amendment requires PMN's to contain information and data necessary for evaluating the potential risks of new substances to humans and the environment. This specifically includes certain exposure information listed in Annex VII, concerning proposed uses and estimated yearly production volumes (in ranges, and broken down by use categories). Further, Article 6(1) requires submission of "a declaration concerning the unfavourable effects of the substance in terms of the various uses envisaged," which appears to require statements of the risks that may be associated with the use categories provided under Annex VII.(26)

Information Concerning Classification and Labeling itself, and Recommended Precautions and Emergency Measures. TSCA does not contain any general requirements for the packaging and labeling of hazardous substances. Therefore it is not surprising that there are no such requirements or similar terms for new chemicals.(27) Of course, many companies will apply the same general hazard warnings and packaging standards to their new substances that they use for their existing chemicals and products. This includes the use of labels and data sheets recommended by the American National Standard Institute (ANSI).

On the other hand, for more than a decade the EEC has required certain dangerous substances to be packaged and labeled according to requirements contained in this same Directive.(28)Article 5(1) thus requires companies to package and label their

4. BILES Harmonizing the Regulation of New Chemicals

new substances in accordance with the Directive's general requirements for existing substances. Further, PMN's must include information concerning "the proposed classification and labeling of the substance in accordance with this Directive." Art. 6(1). Member States may use this information to review labels and require any changes in them.

Both Article 6(1) and Annex VII require notifiers to provide information concerning recommended methods and precautions for safe handling, storage, use, and transport of their substances. Annex VII also specifies that notifications must include emergency measures in the case of "accidental spillage" or "injury to persons (e.g. poisoning)."

Regulation of New Chemicals

TSCA "Unreasonable Risk" Regulations, and Other Restrictions. During the three years that companies have been submitting PMN's to EPA, the Agency has developed a number of means for informally regulating the production and use of certain new chemicals. In addition, § 5(f) authorizes EPA to initiate more formal regulatory actions, primarily involving lawsuits.

Because notices for many new substances do not contain sufficient information and data for evaluating their toxicities (especially re chronic effects) and probable exposure patterns, EPA's primary focus in reviewing PMN's has been to determine whether it will request further testing. In some cases, the exercise (or threat of exercise) of the Agency's authority has proven sufficient to persuade a company either to hold up production of the substance voluntarily (while further data are developed), or to cease altogether its plans for bringing the chemical to market.

Production and use of new substances can be limited in a number of other ways as well. First, the only duty to submit a PMN may impose costs and highlight unanswered scientific and technical questions sufficient to persuade a company that, on balance, it should drop the substance. In addition, EPA officials often will discuss, negotiate, and otherwise "jawbone" notifiers to ensure that adequate production and use limitations are imposed to protect against any significant risks that might occur. These informal requests may be given added weight by the Agency's decision to extend the usual 90-day notice review period for up to an additional 90 days (under § 5(c)). In fact, in a small number of cases the submitters have agreed to suspend the notice review period indefinitely, while further discussions and data development activities are pursued.

In addition to these informal means for regulating, § 5(f) authorizes EPA to seek restrictions upon the production, distribution, use, and disposal of new substances that "present or will present an unreasonable risk" of injury to health or the environment. To ban a new chemical outright, the Agency must obtain an injunction from a U.S. district court. Any other restrictions must be imposed via an expedited rulemaking that is similar to the general rulemaking actions under TSCA § 6 for existing substances.

For several reasons, EPA to date has neither initiated, nor even seriously considered taking, any actions under § 5(f). First, the required finding of an "unreasonable risk" to health or the environment is very difficult to make for most new substances, simply because of the general lack of information and data that are needed for assessment and evaluation purposes. Second, because both court actions and rulemakings require a significant expenditure of Agency time, personnel, and other resources, the procedural aspects of § 5(f) impose considerable restraints upon the exercise of this authority. Finally, EPA has expressed its concern about the propriety of regulating individual chemicals under § 5(f), when those chemicals probably belong to broader classes of substances ("me-too") chemicals) that not only present many of the same risks to health or the environment, but do so on a much broader scale.(29)

In sum, EPA never has exercised its § 5(f) authority and it probably will do so only rarely, if at all, in the future.

Regulation Under the Sixth Amendment. Consistent with the requirement that new substances must comply with the Sixth Amendment's general provisions for the packaging and labeling of dangerous substances, the country which receives a PMN may amend the notifier's labeling scheme to ensure such compliance. In addition, if the country requests further information and testing, it also may "take appropriate measures relating to safe use" to the extent that these are "necessary for the evaluation of the hazard [i.e. risk]" that the substance may cause, and pending Community action. Art. 7(1). But beyond these two general authorities, the Directive does not contain a provision comparable to TSCA § 5(f).(30)

Rather, Article 23 authorizes individual countries to impose prohibitions or other special conditions upon the marketing of new substances, pending Commission or Council action. However, this authority is restricted by three conditions. First, the country must have

> detailed evidence that [the] substance, although satisfying the requirements of [the Sixth Amendment] constitutes a hazard [i.e. risk] for man or the environment . . .

Second, the prohibition or limitation applies only to marketing within the country's own territory, so that a company would be free to market its substance in other EEC countries unless they also enact similar restrictions. Finally, any actions under Article 23, whether taken by the country of notification or another Member State, are "provisional" -- i.e. they may be imposed only pending Commission or Council action on the substance.

4. BILES Harmonizing the Regulation of New Chemicals

In this regard, although the country that receives the original PMN has the primary responsibility for reviewing the new substance, other Member States may participate in that review and take regulatory actions. The country that receives a PMN must provide the Commission a copy (or summary) of the PMN, and the Commission then must forward the PMN information to the other Member States. Upon receipt of this information, any other country may act under Article 23 to prohibit or limit sale of that substance in its own territory. However, this second country's action must be based upon a finding with "detailed evidence" that the substance constitutes a risk to humans or the environment in that country.(31)

Followup Reporting and Testing Requirements

TSCA and the Sixth Amendment are fundamentally different in their approaches to "followup" reporting and testing of substances for which PMN's have been submitted. TSCA § 5 does not establish such a program, and although EPA has consistently indicated its intention to require certain types of followup reporting, the Agency has yet to implement any such scheme. Conversely, followup reporting is an integral part of the Sixth Amendment, and the Member States may apply their testing and regulatory authorities (over PMN's) to these subsequent notifications as well.

Followup Reporting Under TSCA. Since 1978, EPA repeatedly has stated its intention to require followup reporting for certain PMN substances once they complete the 90-day notice review period and enter commercial production. The Agency has offered several reasons for implementing a followup program.

First, in cases when EPA lacks sufficient information and data to evaluate the potential toxicities and exposures of new substances, the Agency may face an either/or decision (either initiate a § 5(e) action or take no action), where a middle ground of followup reporting would be more desirable. Second, because TSCA PMN's are not person-specific, any "voluntary" agreements reached with the original notifiers (for example, concerning the development of additional data or the imposition of certain production or use restrictions), are not binding upon any other companies that subsequently produce the substance. Followup reporting or notification requirements applicable to all such parties (or to the major ones) might help solve this problem. Third, because TSCA establishes a premanufacture notification scheme, and not a registration or approval program, EPA often faces severe time constraints upon its ability to fully assess notices. Some type of future reporting could provide a release valve of sorts from these limitations upon the Agency's ability to perform an adequate review of those substances.

> American Chemical Society Library 1155 16th St. N. W. In TSCA's Immerican Society and Chemical Jacquistry; Ingle, G.; ACS Symposium Series; American Chemical Society: Washington, DC, 1983.

Finally, by tying certain types of followup reporting to the development of additional information and test data, EPA might be able to more realistically take account of the economic constraints facing manufacturers when they submit their PMN's (particularly small companies or producers of specialty chemicals). In fact, some U.S. companies and trade associations have suggested that EPA could adopt a type of "pay-as-you-go" approach to the PMN program -- i.e. EPA would accept minimal levels of information and data in the original PMN's, but subsequently would obtain additional information for certain "problem" chemicals once they achieve increased production volumes (and thus can justify the costs of the testing). However, EPA and industry never have concurred on some of the most basic provisions of such a program -including the criteria for identifying chemicals for tracking in this manner, as well as the appropriate means for ensuring followup testing and reporting (e.g., voluntary agreements, rules).

EPA has cited two statutory authorities that it might use for followup. First, § 5(a)(2) authorizes the Agency to issue significant new use rules (SNUR's), which would require § 5 notifications for substances (designated in the SNUR's) when certain exposure-related "triggers" or criteria are met (e.g., significant changes in production volume). The basic concept would be that a substantial change in exposure(s) (resulting from a new use) may lead to a significant new risk(s), and it thus merits EPA's review under § 5. SNUR notifications would be subject to the same basic data requirements and review authorities described above for PMN's.

Second, EPA could issue rules under § 8(a) to require periodic reports concerning the commercial development of certain new substances once they enter production. Unlike SNUR's, § 8(a)requirements would not prevent companies from continuing their production and marketing activities. Rather, EPA would review information contained in the § 8(a) reports, and then could pursue control actions under its other TSCA authorities for regulating existing chemicals (i.e. § 4 test rules, or § 6(a) "unreasonable risk" regulations).

To date, EPA has proposed only one SNUR for a PMN substance, and the Agency has not issued any § 8(a) rules. For the most part, EPA has indicated its intention to use both of these authorities sparingly and, in particular, to build any major followup reporting efforts around § 8(a), with only very limited use of SNUR's. However, because both of these authorities require rulemaking, and for a variety of other reasons, it appears highly improbable that EPA will use either of them to any significant degree during the next several years.

Followup Reporting and Testing Under the Sixth Amendment. Followup reporting and testing are integral parts of the Sixth Amendment's premarket notification scheme. The Directive itself contains criteria for such reporting, and it specifies a variety of tests that individual Member States may impose once they receive the subsequent notices.

Under Article 6(4), any company that previously submitted a PMN for a substance must inform the appropriate government concerning any of the following: significant changes in annual or total quantities marketed; new toxicity data; new uses for which the substance is marketed; or changes in chemical properties resulting from a modification of the substance. Although reports under Article 6(4) do not automatically require the development of more toxicity information and test data, under Annex VIII, Level 1, the Member State that receives the notification may require additional testing if production volume exceeds ten tonnes per year, or a total of fifty tonnes, and if other relevant factors (e.g., existing test data, uses) justify the need for more toxicity data. Several studies may be required under this authority: fertility, teratology, sub-chronic and/or chronic (from 90 days to two years), mutagenesis, ecotoxicological. Further, although Annex VIII contains the same "escape clause" that is found in Annex VII, as with base set testing the country probably can overrule the company's objections and require the advanced testing.

Annex VIII also contains "Level 2" notification testing requirements, triggered if a PMN notifier's production of a new substance subsequently reaches 1,000 tonnes per year or a total of 5,000 tonnes. The company must provide a followup notice and the country then must draw up a test program for the notifier. This may include tests for chronic toxicity, carcinogenicity, fertility (e.g., three-generation study), teratology (non-rodent species), acute and sub-acute toxicity (on second species), additional toxicokinetic characteristics, and various ecotoxicological factors (including accumulation, degradation, and mobility).

The same basic packaging and labeling requirements described above for PMN's, and the authority for provisional regulation of new hazardous substances, also apply to the Member States' review of followup notifications. Thus, if subsequent notices and additional test data warrant changes in packaging and labeling provisions, or justify the imposition of production or use restrictions, the Member States may take action to impose such requirements.

ACTIVITIES OF THE ORGANIZATION FOR ECONOMIC COOPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT

During the last five years, the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) has directed several programs and activities concerning the regulation of new chemicals. Most of these have been organized under the general goal of achieving international "harmonization" in the control of chemical substances. This part summarizes the OECD work.

The Institutional Framework

The OECD was established by Convention in 1960, $(\underline{32})$ and grew out of the Marshall Aid Plan's Organisation for European Economic Co-operation. It has a membership of 24 countries, including the U.S., all ten members of the EEC, Scandinavian countries, Canada, Japan and Australia. In addition, the EEC "takes part" in OECD activities.

The OECD Council is the organization's main governing body. It consists of ambassadors or ministers from each of the member countries. The Council usually reaches one of two types of cooperative agreements with regard to the major subjects that come before it.(33) Council <u>Decisions</u> are binding upon all Members, who must implement them in accordance with appropriate national procedures and requirements. <u>Recommendations</u>, on the other hand, are not binding, but are submitted to the Members who then must decide whether to implement them through their own national laws. Thus, the exact status of a particular Council action is significant insofar as whether it requires, or only suggests, implementation at the national level.

The OECD performs its work through various committees and groups, with representatives designated by the participant countries. In addition, specific technical issues often are addressed by "expert groups," comprised of specialists from the particular countries involved. The OECD's offices and staff, located in Paris, provide much of the day-to-day continuity and support for Organization activities.

The OECD Chemicals Programme

The OECD Environment Committee has general supervisory responsibilities for environmental and health matters. This Committee supervises the work of the Chemicals Group, which in turn has overall responsibility for issues involving the control of substances. The OECD Chemicals Programme has two parts.

Part I Programme. As a result of Council Recommendations in 1974 and 1977, for almost five years now the Chemicals Group has been responsible for a number of activities which together comprise Part I of the Chemicals Programme. Three of these are of particular relevance to this paper: (1) The production and subsequent updating of OECD test guidelines (containing standard methods for performing various health and environmental tests, but not including either rigid protocols or decision rules/criteria concerning the circumstances when the tests should be performed); (2) The development of approaches to "step sequence" testing; and (3) Work on principles and guidelines for hazard (i.e. risk) assessment.(34) Part II Programme. In 1978 the OECD instituted its Part II Programme, the Special Programme on the Control of Chemicals. This work is supervised by the Management Committee.(35)

To date, the Part II Programme has focused upon four major projects: (1) The development and implementation of a set of Principles of Good Laboratory Practice (GLP's); (2) Resolution of issues concerning Confidentiality of Data; (3) Development of a Glossary of Key Terms; and (4) Development of guidelines and other procedures for the exchange of information (e.g., re test data, the export of hazardous chemicals, and the labelling of hazardous chemicals).

Work To Date. From 1977-80, the most intensive and productive OECD activities focused upon Mutual Acceptance of Data (MAD) and the development of test guidelines and GLP's. Efforts also were devoted to the Step Sequence Group and, in particular, that body's efforts to develop a Minimum Pre-Marketing Set of Data (MPD). Technical and scientific work also progressed on the various hazard assessment issues; and expert groups worked on recommendations concerning confidential data, definitions of key terms, and principles of information exchange.

In May 1980, the Chemicals Group endorsed recommendations from three of its groups concerning GLP's, test guidelines, and the MPD, and endorsed the principle of Mutual Acceptance of Data. Thereafter, the Environment Committee also endorsed these recommendations.

A year later, in May 1981, the OECD Council considered these recommendations and issued a <u>Decision</u> establishing the following principle of Mutual Acceptance of Data (MAD):

[D]ata generated in the testing of chemicals in an OECD Member country in accordance with OECD Test Guidelines and OECD Principles of Good Laboratory Practice shall be accepted in other Member countries for purposes of assessment and other uses relating to the protection of man and the environment.

In Annexes accompanying its Decision, the Council incorporated the specific GLP's endorsed by the Chemicals Group, as well as those test guidelines that had been developed to date.(36) The Council did not endorse any action concerning the MPD.

It should be noted that the Council's Decision does not commit members of the OECD to adopt these test guidelines and GLP's as enforceable requirements. Rather, the Council issued a <u>Recommendation</u> that "Member countries, in the testing of chemicals, apply" the guidelines and GLP's. Thus, while the Decision commits Members to accept, for purposes of their own assessments and evaluations, any data that are generated in accordance with these guidelines and principles, Members remain free to select these or any others for their own national use.

The Minimum Pre-Marketing Set of Data (MPD)

Perhaps the most controversial aspect of the OECD's work concerning new chemicals has been its efforts to develop a Minimum Pre-Marketing Set of Data, sometimes referred to as a "base set". This activity is the first of the Step Sequence Group's efforts to identify principles and criteria for determining when various tests should be performed. As distinguished from the work to develop GLP's and test guidelines, this effort has focused upon the application of those guidelines to different types or categories of chemicals and in various production and use situations. Thus, it raises the fundamental issue of so-called decision rules, criteria, and other similar guidelines for deciding under what circumstances the specific tests should be performed.

As noted above, in May 1980 the High Level Meeting of the Chemicals Group endorsed the MPD, with full support from the U.S. representatives. The data components of the MPD were largely similar to those contained in the base set of tests found in Annex VII to the Sixth Amendment. The MPD also would include "provisions for flexible applications" of the MPD to particular chemicals, using language similar to the "escape clause" found in Annex VII. The draft Council Decision read, in pertinent part:

[The MPD] shall be generated or obtained and applied for the purpose of initial assessment of new chemicals, and in this regard the data components of the [MPD] and the provisions for its flexible application are set forth in the Annex to this Decision and form integral parts thereof.

The Environment Committee endorsed the MPD and recommended it to the Council for action at its May 1981 meeting. However, the Council, in the face of new U.S. opposition to enactment of the MPD as written, failed to enact either a Decision or a Recommendation concerning MPD.

This change in official U.S. policy came as a result of lobbying that the American chemical industry (primarily the Chemical Manufacturers Association (CMA)) undertook with the new Administration after it assumed office in January 1981. The major concern that CMA stated was that the proposed Council Decision on MPD, as written, might legally bind the U.S. to amend TSCA and require the MPD as part of PMN's in this country. CMA long had opposed any concept of "base set" testing for all new substances under TSCA, and viewed the MPD, particularly if incorporated in a Council Decision, as being directly contrary to that position. As a result, industry prevailed upon the (new) U.S. officials to oppose enactment at this time of any Council measure dealing with MPD; the U.S. representatives at the May 1981 Council meeting opposed the draft Decision; and the Council did not act upon it.

4. BILES Harmonizing the Regulation of New Chemicals

Subsequent to the Council meeting, discussions have continued, both within this country and informally at a number of OECD meetings, to attempt to resolve the present U.S. opposition to the earlier draft Decision. Attention recently has focused upon a draft "interpretive statement" to be added to the original draft MPD Decision, which would make it clear that enactment of the Decision in no way would bind the U.S. to amend TSCA or otherwise incorporate MPD into the U.S. PMN program. However, no consensus has been reached to date.

HARMONIZATION AND OTHER FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS

TSCA and the Sixth Amendment are quite different in many important respects, and it would require some fundamental changes to standardize them or even make them consistent. However, because they deal in part with the same general subject matter -- industry notification and government review of new chemicals -- and because they may lead to trade barriers and the inefficient use of scarce technical and scientific resources, it is useful to consider how they might be brought closer in line with one another. "Harmonization" is a term commonly applied to such efforts.

The Concept of Harmonization

Webster defines "harmony" to mean "correspondence, accord • • [as in] 'lives in harmony with her neighbors.'" Thus, to "harmonize" is "to bring into consonance or accord." The term "accord" is defined as "balanced interrelationship: harmony."(37)

None of those persons active in international discussions concerning the regulation of new chemicals has argued that "harmonization" will result in the development of any standardized, world-wide scheme for the submission and review of PMN's. Rather, most have viewed harmonization as being goal-oriented -in the words of one OECD official,

> Harmonization is something more than coordination -- which doesn't convey the idea of shared objectives -- but something less than standardisation -- since there is generally a variety of acceptable ways to attain agreed goals.(38)

Thus, given diverse legal and economic frameworks, efforts to achieve harmony on major policies and procedures depend upon the various parties reaching accord on their basic goals.

With regard to the testing and regulation of new chemicals, it is not at all clear that, with the exception of the most fundamental goal of protecting man and the environment from certain chemical risks, the major parties involved in these issues have reached an accord on fundamentals. In fact, experience to date indicates that real "harmonization" often neither reflects nor constitutes a goal of multilateral discussions, but is cited in support of other desired outcomes once they have been achieved through such discussions.

Of course, ongoing dialogue between representatives of the various governments and industries involved may lead to a common understanding of the different regulatory frameworks and of the various parties' interests in them. But beyond this most basic outcome, there appear to be at least four levels of concurrence at which some sort of "harmony" could conceivably be achieved concerning notification and review of new substances: (1) The development of common methodologies and guidelines (e.g., concerning toxicity tests, economic analyses), and agreements to accept the data derived from these methods; (2) Agreements to employ these methods as the recognized ("approved"?) approaches to developing the particular data and analyses; (3) Concurrence on joint criteria and "decision rules" for developing data and information (addressing the circumstances under which the methods and guidelines should or must be employed); and (4) Joint or common approaches to the actual review and regulation of new substances. Using these levels as a reference point, the following discussion evaluates developments to date and what may lie ahead.

Harmonizing TSCA and the Sixth Amendment

<u>Conflicts Between the Two PMN Programs</u>. Inconsistent and conflicting PMN requirements arise in each of the four areas described in the first part of this paper.

First, to the extent that TSCA and the Sixth Amendment do not have the same general scope and coverage, this necessarily will mean that companies in some cases will face regulation of their (new) chemicals and commercial activities in one country(ies), but not in another, and vice versa. Almost by definition, this will create certain artificial competitive advantages and disadvantages for companies, depending upon at which end they lie in the trade of those particular chemicals.

Similarly, different <u>testing and other data requirements</u> may create non-tariff barriers to trade. If countries reach agreement concerning the use of common test methods and guidelines, and if they further harmonize concerning both the use (e.g., the OECD's MAD) and sharing of information and data, some of these barriers will be reduced. But to the extent that the substantive testing criteria are at variance, either as written or as applied by national regulatory officials (e.g., re the "escape clause" in the Sixth Amendment's base set of tests), very real barriers will remain.

The inconsistent or conflicting <u>regulation of new chemicals</u> probably represents the most obvious manner in which the PMN laws can create barriers to trade. Given the fundamental differences between the U.S. and European PMN programs, as well as the inherent self-interests involved because the EEC and the U.S. are

4. BILES Harmonizing the Regulation of New Chemicals

competitors in the world-wide chemicals trade, it is highly unlikely that any significant agreements ever will be reached concerning the joint regulation of new substances. At the very most, and only at some point in the distant future, it might be possible to reach some basic accord concerning the factors to be considered in making regulatory judgments (i.e. health and environmental risks, the efficiency of control options, economic impacts of the regulations). Perhaps the best evidence of this is the fact that even within the EEC itself, the regulation of chemicals -- albeit provisional -- is left largely to the discretion of individual Member States.

Finally, the different approaches to <u>followup notification</u> and <u>testing</u> impose additional requirements upon substances in Europe that do not apply to the same chemicals when they are marketed in the U.S. In the short term, at least, this discrepancy may well work to the advantage of companies doing business in this country (whether U.S.- or foreign-based). But, over time this also could lead European companies to seek changes ("harmonization"?) which either make the EEC requirements less stringent or incorporate an EEC-type of followup scheme into TSCA.(39)

Developments to Date. It often has been stated that the basic policy objective of efforts to harmonize the U.S. and European laws is the achievement of consistent and effective protection of health and the environment. However, economic considerations -- in particular, the avoidance (or minimization) of non-tariff trade barriers -- constitute the principal force behind virtually all of these multilateral efforts. The trade in chemicals and chemical products constitutes a significant part of the overall trade between Western industrialized nations. Specifically, the U.S. enjoys a favorable balance in its chemicals trade, and this is particularly significant given the current recession. Thus, any unnecessary barriers to this trade may impose substantial burdens upon certain segments of the American chemical industry, and may constitute violations of the international General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT).

To date the U.S. and the EEC have implemented their respective PMN programs largely independent of one another. Because they have needed to draft basic rules and policy statements, implement inventory reporting requirements, and staff up and prepare for the receipt of PMN's, it is hardly suprising that the respective governing officials have focused their time and resources upon "getting their own acts together," with only secondary attention devoted to reaching accord on many of the inconsistencies and conflicts described in this paper. Further, to participate in any meaningful discussions and negotiations with their counterparts abroad, representatives from the several countries and organizations must have developed their own (initial) approaches to the many complex issues that they face.

Following passage of TSCA in 1976, and during EPA's initial implementation of the premanufacture program in 1977-78, the U.S. recognized the need to participate in multilateral discussions concerning coordination and "harmonization" of its regulatory activities. For a variety of reasons, U.S. officials selected the OECD as the primary forum for such discussions (and negotiations). Thus, except on a purely informational basis, the U.S. chose not to discuss or negotiate directly with the EEC concerning implementation of TSCA and the Sixth Amendment. Further, the lead U.S. representatives to the OECD chemicals work (including the U.S. chairs of the Chemicals Group, the Management Committee, and of various expert groups) were drawn from EPA and other federal health and environmental protection agencies, and they did not consider commercial and economic issues to be their primary concern in these efforts.

Of course, the work that has gone on to date within the OECD demonstrates the usefulness of focusing upon relatively noncontroversial and apolitical issues upon which agreement can be reached at an early stage. The recent OECD Decision concerning MAD, test guidelines and GLP's represents a very constructive outcome of these harmonization efforts, and it bodes well for the success of similar "Level 1" efforts(40) -- including agreements concerning the glossary of key terms and the mechanisms for information exchange. But falling short, as they do, of requiring consistency in matters of scientific, legal, or regulatory judgment (e.g., whether to perform certain tests, and the use to which resulting information and data should be put), these early successes should not be taken as an indication that similar consensus can be reached concerning issues requiring a higher level of understanding and agreement. The debate over adoption of the MPD is the first, and probably not the last, evidence of this.

<u>Prospects for the Future</u>. During the next few years, a number of factors -- for the most part, missing until now -- may provide a more concrete basis for productive dialogue on major PMN issues. These include the fact that the EEC will begin to develop some real experience with its own program, which should enable the Community to better understand its own system and identify those parts in which changes are both necessary and feasible. This is particularly true with regard to such major issues as testing and followup notifications.

In addition, as a second generation of government officials and legislators assume responsibility for implementing (and, as necessary, amending) these laws, they may be more flexible concerning major policy issues than the persons who have been responsible for establishing the initial strategies for the PMN programs. With the change in Administration and turnover of EPA officials in the U.S., such modifications already are evident. Presumably, the same scenario will develop in the EEC. Although the political and philosophical views of the new persons obviously will influence their approaches to the new chemicals program, the mere fact that different persons are involved should, in and of itself, set the stage for further discussions on major harmonization issues.

However, the basic differences between the U.S. and EEC laws never will be reconciled in one common approach to the regulation of new chemicals, and it is highly improbable that major multilateral agreements will be reached on key regulatory issues. Thus future efforts, both at the OECD level and involving direct U.S.-EEC discussions, will be most profitable in fostering mutual understanding about how the two systems actually operate, and then in achieving Level 1 agreements similar to those reached to date. At most, it may be possible to reach consensus on certain Level 2 issues concerning the standard analytical methods and guidelines to be employed if national laws otherwise require performance of the underlying tests and analyses. Beyond this, the prospects for achieving any high levels of harmony are, at best, pretty slim.

Rather, based upon their cumulative experiences with PMN's, and in response to domestic (including intra-EEC) economic and political factors, during the next few years the U.S. and EEC each will fine tune its own laws through a combination of regulations, policy statements, administrative decisions, and judicial actions. These adjustments might result in greater <u>consistency</u> between TSCA and the Sixth Amendment, but direct "harmonization" will not be the driving force behind most of these changes. Thus, both industry and government should anticipate only limited (if any) success in efforts to eliminate the major differences in the two laws' treatment of significant PMN issues.

The following discussion predicts some of the major developments concerning the U.S. and EEC PMN programs. Admittedly, it is quite speculative and subject to considerable change based upon a variety of factors. Nonetheless, it should give some idea of what we may expect during the next decade of PMN notification and review.

1982-1983. Through the end of 1983, it is unlikely that there will be any major new developments resulting in the harmonization of TSCA and the Sixth Amendment -- either from multilateral agreements as such, or from parallel developments in the implementation of the two laws. This stems primarily from the EEC's focus upon intial implementation of its own requirements, and from recent changes in the U.S.'s approach to OECD and other multilateral discussions.

There will be three major developments in the EEC: (1) reporting and compilation of the EINECS(<u>41</u>) inventory; (2) submission of the first wave of PMN's to the various Member States, and their subsequent review and response to those PMN's; and (3) initial work at the Commission level (in consultation with the Member States) to identify and then address major issues that require EEC-wide discussion and resolution (including the development of some types of guidance). As a result of these three efforts, both the Commission and the individual States will begin to develop a track record on exactly how they will approach the PMN program, as a basis for the development of more general policies and procedures.

The major work under TSCA will be to conclude the current, highly-publicized efforts to develop broad exemptions from the PMN program for polymers, site-limited intermediates, and certain low volume substances. EPA probably will publish general PMN rules and notification forms which essentially restate the applicable statutory terms, and which may reflect the Agency's conclusions concerning the minimal data that it would encourage submitters to provide. Also, the Agency will take few (if any) actions under § 5(e), and will initiate only a skeletal followup reporting program.

Finally, there will be a general weakening of the OECD's role as the major forum for harmonizing the two PMN systems. The present efforts concerning information exchange will continue, as will others dealing with noncontroversial technical and scientific matters. But the OECD probably will have little success in addressing and resolving any key regulatory or policy matters, including the Council's consideration at MPD.

<u>1984-1986</u>. TSCA and the Sixth Amendment will continue to develop largely in parallel, but a type of "harmony" may emerge indirectly as a result of changes that the U.S. and EEC make concerning the basic scope and coverage of their laws. Thus, the U.S. will have completed its initial § 5(h)(4) exemption rule-makings, and the EEC will have better defined which chemicals and activities are subject to its PMN requirements. Also, both sides will continue to develop better methods and data bases concerning fundamental scientific and economic issues, which in turn will enable them to more profitably compare and discuss areas of inconsistent or conflicting regulation.

Specifically, under the Sixth Amendment companies will have begun to refine their procedures for submitting PMN's and then negotiating with individual Member States concerning data needs and possible use restrictions. This, in turn, will lead some companies to a type of "forum shopping" -- i.e. they will select those countries in which, for a variety of reasons, it is most opportune to submit their PMN's, and they will avoid those in which it is not. Also, the Commission will have issued (or otherwise expressed its tacit approval of) guidance on some fundamental technical issues, particularly concerning the contents of PMN's. Several Member States will have taken some regulatory actions on new chemicals, thus raising basic legal and regulatory issues concerning the extent to which the EEC can and will permit individual Members to regulate substances (within their own territories) when other countries (and the EEC itself) do not concur with such regulations.

In the U.S., Congress for the first time will give serious consideration to making major amendments in TSCA, primarily to cut back on some of its more egregious provisions and to otherwise focus upon particular types of health and environmental problems. EPA will continue to issue exemptions for specific categories of substances, and will develop some general followup requirements for a few, well-defined categories -- i.e. those for which PMN's consistently demonstrate possible health and environmental risks, once commercialization begins. Also, the Agency will move to publish a more explicit set of criteria for selecting tests to assess the risks presented by certain categories of non-exempt chemicals, incorporating concepts of "flexibility" analogous to the general "escape clause" found in the Sixth Amendment. These criteria and other related guidance will reflect a consideration of the economic constraints involved in the testing of new substances.

The OECD will continue its technical work, but its focus will shift primarily to existing chemicals. In addition, the Organization will increasingly focus its attention upon waste management issues, again following the approach taken for new chemicals -emphasizing the need to reach consensus on fundamental technical and scientific matters, as well as on the exchange of information and data.

1987-1991. Based upon discussions conducted directly between the U.S. and the EEC (as well as bilateral talks involving Canada and, possibly, Japan), some "harmonization" may be reached concerning "base set" testing of new substances and fundamental criteria for evaluating PMN's. These will not, however, be reflected in any major treaties or conventions, or through discussions within the OECD. Rather, TSCA and the Sixth Amendment will continue to develop in parallel, and the U.S. and the EEC may reach accord on some very basic regulatory matters.

Within the EEC, there will be moves to regulate a few categories of (new) "problem" chemicals, primarily those that several Members repeatedly have identified as being of concern for marketing on a Community-wide basis. Also, the Commission will recommend (to the Council) certain amendments, primarily to make changes in the Directive that already have been accepted in practice by Member States.

Under TSCA, EPA also will turn its attention to requiring additional up-front testing and other data development for certain categories of new substances that consistently lack data (in the PMN's), and which are known to be inherently toxic. The primary vehicle for these additional requirements will be the § 5(b)(4)"risk list," although some § 4 test rules also may be used. By this time, too, the Agency will have refined its means for imposing production or use restrictions absent formal rulemakings or court actions, and the Congress may consider amending TSCA to incorporate some of these extralegal approaches into the Act.

FOOTNOTES

- Paper presented to the Symposium on TSCA Impacts on Society and the Chemical Industry, American Chemical Society 183rd National Meeting, Las Vegas, Nevada, April 1, 1982 -- Blake A. Biles, Jones, Day, Reavis & Pogue.
- 2. The U.S. premanufacture notification (PMN) requirements have been in effect for approximately three years, and more than 1250 PMN's have been submitted to EPA. The EEC's premarket notification requirements took effect in September 1981, so that to date only a handful of PMN's have been filed in Europe.
- 3. This discussion comparing the two PMN programs is substantially shortened from the paper presented at the Las Vegas ACS program. Copies of the original, more detailed text are available from the author.
- Toxic Substances Control Act, 15 U.S.C. 2601 <u>et seq</u>., Pub. L. No. 94-469.
- 5. Council Directive No. 79/831 of September 18, 1979 (0.J. No. L 259/10 of October 15, 1979). This Directive is referred to as the "Sixth Amendment" because it represents the sixth time that the Council has amended Council Directive No. 67/548 of June 27, 1967 (0.J. No. L 196/1 of August 16, 1967) concerning Classification, Packaging and Labelling of Dangerous Substances.
- 6. EPA has construed this "limitation" quite broadly, so that only those activities that are carried out in government or university (or similar non-profit) research labs, and that are not tied to any subsequent commercial exploitation, are outside the scope of the premanufacture requirements. The EEC can be expected to take a similar approach to interpreting what is "commercial."
- 7. See the discussion concerning EPA's intention to impose followup reporting or notification requirements upon the producers of some PMN'ed substances.
- 8. Similarly, if one person is exempt from the EEC's notification requirements, this does not relieve any other person from the requirement to submit a PMN if that second person is not also entitled to the exemption.
- 9. However, multiple PMN's may be required for substances manufactured in more than one EEC country, due to the incorporation of several legal entities in the various Member States.

- 10. Other exclusions under TSCA include tobacco and tobacco products, firearms, and other substances and products that are regulated under the Federal Food Drug and Cosmetic Act. The Sixth Amendment similarly excludes several broad categories of substances and activities: narcotics; the transport of dangerous substances by rail, road, inland waterway, sea or air; wastes that are regulated under other Council directives; substances that are imported into the EEC and then exported without being processed or used in any manner while in the Community; fertilizers that are regulated under other EEC requirements; and substances that are "already subject to similar testing and notification requirements under existing Directives."
- 11. However, EPA has stated that the TSCA PMN requirements do apply to the import of new substances as a part of mixtures. If the premanufacture requirements only applied to the import of new substances in bulk, companies could avoid the PMN requirements by producing new (to the U.S.) substances abroad, formulating them into mixtures abroad, and then importing the new mixtures into this country.
- 12. Article 8(1) of the Sixth Amendment specifies three different types of exemptions for R&D substances. The third appears to be analogous to the TSCA § 5(h)(1) exemption for test marketing activities.
- However, new substances that are imported into the Community and then used at the site of import <u>are</u> subject to the EEC PMN requirements.
- 14. Further, because the volume restriction relates to marketing rather than manufacturing, it appears that a company is entitled to manufacture several tonnes of a chemical in one year, and then market it over a period of several years (at less than one tonne per year), without being required to submit a PMN for the substance.
- 15. See TSCA § 18, "Preemption."
- 16. Examples of these issues include the current uncertainty over the scope of the Directive's general exemption for polymers; the precise interpretation of the exclusions for pesticides and medicinal products; conflicting national approaches to the definition and protection of confidential business information; and differences of opinion (between individual Member States) concerning the applicability of the PMN requirements to substances previously marketed in certain countries but not in others.

- 17. It is important to note the meaning of two terms used in connection with TSCA and the Sixth Amendment, because they often have different interpretations under the two laws. "Hazard" generally is used in the Sixth Amendment (and in other EEC directives) to mean what U.S. scientists and regulators often call "risk" -- i.e. an assessment or evaluation that considers both the effects and exposures that are associated with particular substances. In this country, the term "hazard" usually refers to the inherent toxicity or effects of a substance, or to the unsafe characteristics of particular chemicals or products. The latter meaning is the one used in this paper.
- 18. In January 1981, EPA published a Premanufacture Testing Policy containing general test methods and guidelines for a large number of human and environmental effects. 46 Fed. Reg. 8986, Jan. 27, 1981. Although this guidance would not have imposed any legal obligation upon companies to conduct tests for those effects, it endorsed the OECD's "Minimum Pre-Marketing Set of Data" (MPD), a "base set" of tests to be performed on most new chemicals. However, following the change in Administration in 1981, the U.S. withdrew its active support for the MPD. For a further discussion of this issue, see the next part of this paper.
- 19. EPA possesses a fourth means for obtaining additional test data from industry, although the Agency has never used this authority. Under § 4(a), EPA may impose testing requirements for categories of chemicals, provided the Agency makes certain findings about the need for such data and about the chemicals' potential for exposure to human or environmental populations. Section 5(b)(1) provides that any PMN for a new substance covered by such a testing category must contain the requisite test data. Taken together, these provisions authorize EPA to impose testing requirements upon new chemicals in certain classes, as a condition for the submittal of PMN's for those substances.
- 20. Under § 5(e), following receipt and review of a PMN EPA may order a company to develop test data "sufficient to evaluate the health and environmental effects" of the new substance. However, if the PMN submitter objects to the order (and provides sufficient grounds for that objection), the order does not take effect and EPA must obtain an injunction from a U.S. district court to impose the data requirements (and any appropriate production or use restrictions).
- 21. Category 4 lists three types of studies for human health effects: basic acute toxicity tests, a 28-day animal study (referred to in other discussions as a "sub-chronic" test), and a series of two (or more) screening tests for mutagenicity and carcinogenicity.

62

- 22. The Directive contains these other requirements concerning toxicity information and test data: (1) Notifications must include descriptions of the studies conducted and methods used (Article 6(1), and Annex VII, Introductory Statements); (2) The tests must be performed according to the methods specified in Annex V (Article 3(1)), and must be "recognized and recommended by the competent international bodies where such recommendations exist" (Annex VII, Introductory Statements); (3) The persons who carry out the tests must comply with the principles of current good laboratory practice (Annex VII, Introductory Statements); and (4) The notifications must include the composition of samples used in testing, and the name of the persons responsible for carrying out the studies (Annex VII, Introductory Statements).
- 23. Under Article 6(2), if a particular substance previously was the subject of a PMN by another company, the notifier may rely upon data submitted in the prior notification(s). However to take advantage of this "me-too" provision, a company must obtain agreement (1) from the relevant government authority that reference to the earlier results is satisfactory, and (2) from the previous submitter to use that submitter's data.
- 24. For a discussion of the authority of other Member States to request additional testing, see footnote 31.
- 25. Upon receipt of a PMN, EPA has little direct recourse for requiring a company to develop and otherwise provide more production and use information. Section § 5(e) is EPA's major legal authority for obtaining additional information, and that section focuses upon health and environmental effects data, rather than exposure information.
- 26. The Directive does not specify any other exposure-related information (e.g., production processes, effluent and emission data, information on worker exposures), and it does not mention economic or other non-risk information. However, individual Member States may attempt to require this type of information under their general authority to require additional information and data beyond those specified in Article 6(1) and Annex VII.
- 27. Although TSCA § 6(a)(3) authorizes EPA to issue requirements containing hazard warnings and instructions, the Agency never has proposed any such rules. This may be due in part to the fact that OSHA has proposed certain hazard communication requirements (47 Fed. Reg. 12091, March 19, 1982) which may become effective during 1983.

- 28. As noted earlier, the "Sixth Amendment" enacting the premarket notification requirements constitutes the sixth time that the EEC has amended the Directive concerning the Classification, Packaging and Labelling of Dangerous Substances. This Directive was enacted on June 27, 1967 (0.J. No. L 196/1 of August 16, 1967). The key provisions concerning packaging and labeling in the Directive (as now amended) are Articles 16-18 and Annexes I-IV; also see Articles 2-4, 14-15, and 20-23.
- 29. This "me-too" issue also has been debated in the context of possible § 5(e) actions, concerning the merits of requiring tests for new chemicals when their broader classes of substances are not also being tested.
- 30. Of course, the impact even of temporary measures can be significant, particularly if the time it takes for the Community to take action, and for the notifier then to comply with that action, is long relative to the notifier's need to introduce the chemical onto the market. Also, this regulatory authority may provide considerable leverage to any data-gathering requirements imposed under Article 7(1), just as prospective TSCA § 5(e) actions can have a significant impact upon notice submitters in the United States.
- Other Member States also may use the PMN information and data 31. that they receive as a basis for requesting further tests or information from the PMN submitter (in addition to any such requests from the country that receives the PMN). However, the second country first must suggest to the notified country that the latter request the further testing or other information from the company. If the two countries then disagree concerning data to be requested from the company (or disagree on the need to request any additional data at all), either country may ask the Commission to request such information. Thus, the primary responsibility for requesting additional information and testing lies with the country of notification, and to have an impact, any other Member State must convince either the original country or the Commission that the additional data must be requested.
- Convention of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, December 14, 1960.
- 33. The Council also may enter into agreements with Members, nonmember states, and international organizations.
- 34. The other major elements of the Part I Programme are an Economics Programme (studies and other analyses of the economic impacts of assessment procedures, guidelines, regulations, and laws); the Complementary Information Exchange Procedure (concerning the exchange of information about various laws and regulations); and concerted actions on specific chemicals (re PCB's and mercury, to date).

64

- 35. The Part II Programme was organized under a separate Management Committee (rather than the existing Chemicals Group) in order to obtain the necessary funding, but not to establish a separate supervising committee. The Management Committee and the Chemicals Group closely coordinate their activities and have overlapping memberships.
- 36. At the time of the Council Decision, approximately 50 guidelines were in final form. An equal number were in various stages of drafting, and are to be incorporated into the Annex as they are completed.
- 37. Webster's New Collegiate Dictionary, 8, 519 (1981 ed.).
- "OECD Harmonization of Chemicals Control," p. 2, Speech by B. Gillespie, Administrator, OECD Chemicals Division, presented to CMA/IAG Seminar on Compliance with International Chemcal Regulations, Washington, D.C., April 29, 1981.
- 39. In addition, the requirements and policies concerning the handling and treatment of confidential business information (CBI) are and will continue to be an important topic of "harmonization" discussions. In a number of ways, different approaches to CBI (between the EEC and the U.S.) will directly affect the CBI protections available within each country(ies). This is particularly true concerning the effects that the disclosure of proprietary information in one country will have upon industry's ability to protect CBI from disclosure in other nations.
- 40. See my discussion above of the four "levels" of possible harmonization.
- 41. EINECS: European Inventory of Existing Commercial Chemical Substances. This is the inventory of existing substances required by Article 13(1) of the Sixth Amendment.

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Control of Existing Chemicals

ETCYL H. BLAIR and CARLOS M. BOWMAN

Dow Chemical Company, Midland, MI 48640

The goal of the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) is to provide authority to regulate chemical substances which present an unreasonable risk of injury to health or the environment. An important feature of TSCA requires the administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to examine such data on existing chemicals and, when it is insufficient, to direct industry to conduct tests.

A study of the inventory list of 55,000 commercial substances shows that less than 10% of them account for 99.5% of production. A panel of authorities could provide a qualitative ranking of risk uncertainties which could narrow the list of substances to those of most immediate concern. Those could then be the subjects of case-by-case consideration by appropriate experts.

The goal of the Toxic Substances Control Act is to provide authority to regulate chemical substances and mixtures which present an unreasonable risk of injury to health or the environment. Congress recognized that in order to make a finding of unreasonable risk the Environmental Protection Agency administrator must have adequate data to make such an assessment. One of the important features of TSCA is the requirement that the administrator examine the health and environmental data of existing chemicals (Section 4), and where data is found to be insufficient to make an assessment, industry must do the testing.

The magnitude of the number of commercial substances (55,000) and the limited resources available to examine the potential risks posed by this large number of substances require that we understand the universe of chemicals we are considering so that guidelines for priority setting can be established.

We tried to obtain an understanding of the universe of chemicals by examining the U.S. EPA TSCA inventory information which has been made available to the public. The data compiled

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in this collection include those materials submitted early in the reporting period and omit, of course, confidential information*. Nevertheless, it is adequate to provide a good picture of the universe of commercial chemicals.

As would be expected, we find that a small number of materials account for the bulk of the production volume. In this case, those materials produced in excess of 100 million pounds per year represent only 1.8% of the total number of substances reported and account for 98.9% of the total pounds produced. Lowering the limit to 10 million pounds adds 2.7% of the chemicals, so we now have 4.5% of all the substances and we increase the total volume represented to 99.7%. Going further to one million, we find that only 9.5% of the materials account for 99.9% of the total production reported (Table I).

Table I

VOLUME DISTRIBUTION Entire EPA Inventory

Produc Ran (Lbs)	nge	Numbe Mater		Total Prod (Million L		Cumulative % Production
	L0 ¹¹	1	<0.1	102,000	2.5	2.5
1010	1011	95	0.2	3,119,000	76.5	79.0
10 ⁹	1010	216	0.5	656,000	16.1	95.1
10 ⁸	10 ⁹	436	1.1	155,000	3.8	98.9
10 ⁷	10 ⁸	1,065	2.7	33,800	0.8	99.7
10^{6}	10^{7}	1,983	5.0	8,140	0.2	99.9
10 ⁵	10 ⁶	3,798	9.7	1,720	0.04	99.98
104	10 ⁵	4,689	11.9	225	0.01	99.99
<]	LO"	27,010	68.7	28	<0.01	100.00

To better understand these high-volume materials, we divided all those substances reported as produced in quantities of one million pounds per year or more into several categories such as organics, inorganics, polymers, etc. This exercise was most revealing. We found that those materials which can be classified as petroleum derivatives (gasoline, kerosine, distillation cuts,

* The data used in this discussion were that made available by the EPA from the TSCA inventory and do not have production volume information when that information was claimed confidential. Since the production volume was reported in ranges, in this exercise an appropriate midpoint was used for each range -except that 1,000 pounds was used for materials reported as produced in quantities less than 1,000 pounds, and one billion pounds was used for those reported as being produced in quantities larger than one billion pounds.

68

Table II

VOLUME DISTRIBUTION BY TYPE OF SUBSTANCE (Produced in Excess of 1,000,000 Lbs Annually)

		%	Production Volume	%
Type of Substance	Count	Count	Millions	Volume
	•··••			
Petroleum, Primary Derivatives	380	10.0	2,258,000	55.4
Inorganics	452	11.9	503,000	12.4
Metals, Refining Residues	20	0.5	281,000	6.9
(Ferrous)				
Alkanes	21	0.5	272,000	6.7
Organics	1,307	34.4	246,000	6.0
Polymers & Plastics	893	23.5	122,000	3.0
Other	18	0.5	95,000	2.3
Coal, Primary Derivatives	30	0.8	90,500	2.2
Natural Products & Derivatives	254	6.7	84,200	2.1
Metals, Refining Residues	52	1.4	59,700	1.5
(Non-Ferrous)				
Organics, Variable Composition	287	7.6	27,000	0.7
Metals	24	0.6	19,600	0.5
Minerals	29	0.8	14,300	0.3
Alloys	13	0.3	1,600	0.04
Dyes & Pigments	15	0.40	133	<0.01
Living Organisms	1	0.03	1	<0.01
Total	3,796	100.00	4,074,000	100.00

etc.) represent 10% of the total number of entries in the inventory, but account for 55% of the total production. The inorganics represented 12% of the materials and 12% of the production. Another 7% of the production is due to materials which are residues from the processing of ferrous metals. The saturated hydrocarbons (methane, ethane, hexane, etc.) were responsible for 7%.

We found that structurally well-defined organic substances, the materials we are most concerned about in testing, were the most numerous as they represented 34% of the inventory sample, but they account for only 6% of the total production. Polymers and plastics represent 24% of the number of materials and 3% of the total production (Table II).

Some institutions are giving some type of attention to the petroleum refining, metal or metallurgical substances. However, it appears that the U.S. EPA has either consciously or unconsciously leapfrogged those materials and began by focusing attention on organics and some of the inorganics. Thus, attention is being centered on some 1,307 substances which represent about 6% of the U.S. total production volume.

The organic grouping exhibits the same volume pattern of production as the inventory as a whole. There were 3.3% of the organics produced in quantities in excess of a billion pounds, and this group represents 77% of the total organic production (34% of total). The 100-million to one-billion pound range is 9.2% of the number and an additional 17.2% of the volume (Table III).

Table III

VOLUME DISTRIBUTION OF ORGANIC SUBSTANCES (Production Volume >1,000,000 Lbs/Yr)

Production Range (Lbs/Yr)	Numbe Subst		Total Produ (Million Lt	
>10 ¹⁰ 10 ⁹ 10 ¹⁰ 10 ⁸ 10 ⁹	7 36 120	<u>%</u> 0.5 2.8 9.2	97,830 91,141 42,273	<u>%</u> 39.8 37.1 17.2
$10^7 10^8 10^6 10^7$	383 761	29.3 58.3	11,249 3,086	4.6 1.3
Total	$\frac{701}{1,307}$	50.5	245,580	1.5

The volume distribution of 451 inorganic chemical substances (Table IV) represents 11.9% of the count of those chemicals produced in excess of one million pounds annually and 12.4% of the volume.

Table IV

VOLUME DISTRIBUTION OF INORGANIC SUBSTANCES (Production Volume >1,000,000 Lbs/Yr)

Production Range	Numbe	r of	Total Pro	
(Lbs/Yr)	Subst	ances	(Million	
$\begin{array}{rrr} >10^{10} \\ 10^{9} & 10^{10} \\ 10^{8} & 10^{9} \\ 10^{7} & 10^{8} \\ 10^{6} & 10^{7} \end{array}$	17 35 89 133 <u>178</u> 451	<u>%</u> 3.8 7.8 19.7 29.5 39.2	348,731 112,934 36,443 4,375 775 503,258	$ \begin{array}{r} \frac{\%}{69.3} \\ 22.4 \\ 7.2 \\ 0.9 \\ 0.2 \end{array} $

Polymers and plastics (Table V) numbering 893 substances represent 23.5% of the count of substances produced in excess of one million pounds annually but only 3% of the volume. The largest volume substance, cellulose pulp, represents 64% of the total pounds produced in this category.

Table V

VOLUME DISTRIBUTION OF POLYMERS AND PLASTICS (Production Volume >1,000,000 Lbs/Yr)

Production Range (Lbs/Yr)	Numbe Mater		Total Pro (Million	
$\begin{array}{r} >10^{10} \\ 10^{9} 10^{10} \\ 10^{8} 10^{9} \\ 10^{7} 10^{8} \\ 10^{6} 10^{7} \\ Total \end{array}$	1 9 40 204 <u>639</u> 893	<u>%</u> 0.1 1.0 4.5 22.8 71.6	78,593 22,400 13,251 5,476 <u>2,462</u> 122,182	$\frac{\cancel{8}}{64.3}$ 18.3 10.8 4.5 2.1

It is interesting to note that 380 separate chemical substances that make up the primary derivatives of petroleum represent 55.4% of all chemicals with production weight greater than one million pounds per year (Table VI). Table VI

VOLUME DISTRIBUTION OF PRIMARY DERIVATIVES OF PETROLEUM (Production Volume >1,000,000 Lbs/Yr)

Production Range	Numbe		Total Pro	
(Lbs/Yr)	Mater	ials	(Million	<u>Lbs/Yr)</u>
		<u>%</u>		<u>%</u>
>1011	1	0.3	102,171	4.5
10^{10} 10^{11}	51	13.4	1,847,835	81.8
10^9 10^{10}	85	22.4	266,906	11.8
10^{8} 10^{9}	91	23.9	36,241	1.6
10 ⁷ 10 ⁸	96	25.3	4,376	0.2
10 ⁶ 10 ⁷	<u> 56</u> 380	14.7	272	<0.1
Total	380		2,257,799	

The major substances with production volumes in millions of pounds per year for organics, inorganics, polymers and plastics and primary derivatives of petroleum are noted in Tables VII, VIII, IX and X.

Table VII

Organics

20,046	Propylene	5,944	Methanol
19,021	Ethylene	4,928	Styrene
13,837	Benzene	3,881	1,3-Butadiene
13,203	Urea	3,838	Acetic Acid
11,306	Butylene	3,793	Ethylene Glycol
10,383	Toluene	3,351	o-Xylene
10,036	Ethylene Dichloride	3,045	Cumene
8,603	Xylene	3,006	Ethylene Oxide
6,716	Ethyl Benzene	2,961	Formaldehyde
6,500	Vinyl Chloride		

MAJOR SUBSTANCES Production Volume (Million Lbs/Yr)

Table VIII

MAJOR SUBSTANCES Production Volume (Million Lbs/Yr)

Inorganics

49,174	Sulfuric Acid	16,311	Nítric Acid
31,723	Calcium Oxide	15,127	Ammonium Nitrate
30,618	Ammonia	13,519	Sulfur
29,565	Sodium Hydroxide	13,136	Ammonium Phosphate (2:1)
29,413	Carbon Dioxide	13,068	Aluminum Oxíde
19,169	Hydrogen	12,326	Calcium Hydroxide
18,498	Chlorine	11,583	Calcium Carbonate
18,125	Sodium Carbonate	10,304	Carbon Monoxide
17,073	Phosphoric Acids		

Table IX

MAJOR SUBSTANCES Production Volume (Million Lbs/Yr)

Polymers and Plastics

- 5,191 Polyvinyl Chloride
- 4,963 Polyethylene
- 3,622 Butadiene/Styrene Copolymer
- 2,107 Poly (Ethylene Terephthalate)
- 1,915 Polystyrene
- 1,245 Polypropylene
- 1,161 Urea-Formaldehyde Polymer
- 1,113 Phenol-Formaldehyde Polymer
- 1,082 Polybutadiene

Table X

MAJOR SUBSTANCES Production Volume (Million Lbs/Yr)

Primary Derivatives of Petroleum

102,171	Gas Oil (Middle)
99,525	Atmospheric Tower Residuum
93,700	Vacuum Residuum
82,381	Kerosine
80,856	Gas Oils, Heavy Vacuum
78,582	Naphtha, Heavy Straight Run
76,400	Gas Oils, Straight Run
73,960	Naphtha, Light Straight Run
71,230	Naphtha, Light Catalytic Reformed
69,140	Naphtha, Light Catalytic Cracked
68,135	Naphtha, Heavy Catalytic Reformed
66,310	Naphtha, Sweetened
65,875	Naphtha, Heavy Catalytic Cracked

Obviously, control decisions cannot be made on the basis of volume alone, but certainly the higher-volume materials deserve early scrutiny and consideration.

Current State of Knowledge of Health and Ecological Effects

Most of the commodity organic chemicals have rather complete data bases, although knowledge of certain effects may be missing. For the small-volume organic chemicals, health and environmental data bases are sometimes non-existent or limited to a knowledge of a few physical properties that may impact health and environmental effects.

Since many of the commercial chemicals have been in use for decades, it is apparent that major health and ecological effects should have been observed and reported in the literature if such effects occur under historical conditions of manufacturing and use.

Generally there appears to be consensus that testing to determine the health and ecological effects of many commercial chemicals should continue. However, the resources available for such testing are limited. In addressing this challenge of testing needs vs resource limits, it seems obvious that priorities for testing programs will have to be established.

The idea of prioritizing those substances which will be tested is not new. Every organization that has to consider the testing or assessment of chemicals has to prioritize its efforts. Some have done it formally and others informally. The U.S. EPA Interagency Testing Committee (ITC) has developed a procedure which is used to focus attention on a smaller number of substances for consideration for priority testing. The Chemical Manufacturers Association (CMA) has looked at these approaches and has made a preliminary suggestion as to how materials could be selected for testing.

As one reviews all the discussions on the need for testing in order to obtain all the data necessary to make an appropriate risk assessment of a substance, one gets the feeling that there is so much to be done that there must be very little going on or completed. This is not the case at all. There are a large number of organizations, both governmental and private, which are engaged in testing of existing chemical substances.

Since there is no concerted effort to coordinate testing underway in various laboratories of the world, it might be felt that this lack of coordination may cause some important substances to be missed and thereby present the possibility of harm being done to people or the environment. In order to determine if this were so, we undertook an examination of the top 50 chemicals produced in the U.S. This is a list of commercial chemicals selected by *CHEMICAL AND ENGINEERING NEWS* as those materials with the largest production. It should be noted that these are distinct substances, not mixtures or petroleum products (Table XI).

Without trying to carry out an exhaustive search, we accumulated information on the physical, chemical, toxicological and ecological properties of these 50 substances. The amount of data available varied for each chemical, as would be expected. We found that there were physical and chemical properties on all 50. In the case of data on human health and mammalian toxicology, there were only five substances for which there was no information, and these were in every case substances that are well known and would not be expected to present a problem. In the case of ecotoxicology there was less, but there still are data for all except for eight substances: ammonium sulfate, carbon dioxide, sodium carbonate, nitrogen, oxygen, sulfuric acid, terephthalic acid and water glass.

Another approach that we took towards the top 50 was to examine what the ITC had done with these substances. We found that of the 50 substances only 18 survived the screening process used by the ITC to narrow down the total number of substances examined. Each of these 18 was scored, using the ITC scoring procedures, and were then considered by the committee. Four have been recommended for priority testing: ethylene oxide, propylene oxide, toluene and xylene.

We also reviewed the testing programs of the Chemical Industry Institute of Toxicology (CIIT) and CMA as they pertain to the top 50 chemicals. We found that there were 21 substances which are either being tested or are being considered for testing. An examination of the testing programs of these two organizations also shows that there are testing programs underway or planned for another 35 of the major commercial substances which are not

XI	
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Tab	

SUMMARY OF DATA AVAILABLE AND TESTING PLANNED ON U.S. "TOP 50" CHEMICALS

In TSCA's Impact on Society and Chemical Industry; Ingle, G.; ACS Symposium Series; American Chemical Society: Washington, DC, 1983.

Table XI (Cont'd.)		Uara Avallable* Human Health		Testing	
Pr Chemical Substances Prop	Physical Properties	Mammalian Toxicology	Ecotoxicology	Planned or Underway	Scored by ITC (R=Recommended)
	x	х	x	×	×
Acid	×	х	х		
	×	x	×	x	
	x	х	×		
	x				
	×				
	×	x	×	×	
	x	x	x		
	×	x	x		
	×		х		x
	×	x	х	×	R
Sodium Carbonate	×	x			
	x	x	х		
	x	х	х		
Sodium Tripolyphosphate	×	х	х		
	×	х	×	×	×
	×	х			
Acid	×	x		×	×
	×	x	х	×	x
	x	х	х		R
	×	x	×	x	
	x	х	х	×	
	×	x	x	×	
	×	×			
	×	×	x	×	R
	×	x	×	×	×

In TSCA's Impact on Society and Chemical Industry; Ingle, G.; ACS Symposium Series; American Chemical Society: Washington, DC, 1983. 77

the top 50 volume chemicals in the U.S. There is no reason to believe that a survey of the literature would not yield similar results as those discussed for the top 50 for the other major commercial chemicals.

It is apparent from this discussion that if one narrows down the large universe of commercial chemicals to those produced in sufficient quantities, such that they might be expected to pose a possible health or unwarranted threat, there is a significant amount of information known about these substances or studies are being considered for a number of them. This is not to say that there is no need for continued testing of existing commercial substances, but the picture is not as bleak as some would want us to believe.

There are considerable resources being devoted to the testing of existing substances throughout the world. This testing is being concentrated on those substances which would be expected to pose risk to health or the environment.

Priority Setting

Typically, the dossier of a chemical will show gaps in the data. These gaps can be considered as voids that may need to be filled by testing. Simplistically, among the groups of chemicals under consideration, the chemicals with the greatest number of gaps and the greatest exposure potential would receive priority consideration.

Realistically, however, priority-setting is more complex. Expert judgment, utilizing analogy and experience, is necessary to assess qualitatively the most sensitive toxicological or ecological effect likely to be of concern, and for this effect(s) it is necessary to estimate the amount of uncertainty in the risk on the basis of existing data. An estimate then needs to be made which will determine the degree to which the uncertainty will be reduced by further testing.

A panel of experts would be expected to take into consideration the accumulation of experience with a given substance, including past exposure as well as current steps being taken, to control the exposure to the substance. A substance which has been produced in significant quantities over a long period of time with no known adverse effects would be of less concern than a substance whose production is rising rapidly and for which there is little experience. If the exposure to a substance has been reduced through changes in production or use patterns, that substance should also receive less attention than one over which no control is exercised. When available, epidemiological data should be considered along with animal data.

The expert panel can bridge the information gaps of concern for a given chemical and provide a qualitative ranking of those risk uncertainties which are to be clarified by testing. This case-by-case approach will be directed by the basic interests and mission of the institution conducting the prioritizing of the substances. Thus, we see here an approach for selection of substances based on a well-defined procedure for narrowing the overall universe followed by case-by-case consideration by appropriate experts.

In the U.S. it has become apparent that the number of materials which need to be considered for priority testing is such that, even after the screening approach described is applied and case-by-case selections are made, it will require our combined resources the next five to 10 years to adequately fill the data gaps so identified.

Such prioritization is needed to assure that scarce testing resources are focused on those materials of greatest concern.

RECEIVED September 1, 1982

6

Overview After Five Years

E. HAMILTON HURST

Nalco Chemical Company, Oak Brook, IL 60521

The Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) was signed into law on October 11, 1976 and became effective on January 1, 1977. During its formative first years, there have been relatively few regulations finalized under the potentially wide scope of the law. Even so, TSCA has had a perceptible and important impact on the chemical industry and the way it operates. This overview of progress under the TSCA law, will highlight and differentiate portions of the law where regulations are finalized, pending or awaiting administrative development.

On January 1, 1977, the chemical industry truly became a regulated industry. The environmental laws up until that time had covered some chemicals, but had been media oriented. That is -- they were concerned about certain chemicals that escaped as emissions or pollutants to various media - the air, our water, contaminated our food or entered the workplace. TSCA changed that direction. It was designed to regulate commerce on chemical substances. TSCA potentially applies to all chemicals manufactured, processed, distributed or used in the U.S. except those chemicals already regulated under certain other federal laws. TSCA affects not only the chemical industry itself, but the many other industries whose products are chemical in nature. This includes most all industrial products.

The origin of TSCA is attributed to the CEQ (Council on Environmental Quality) report "Toxic Substances" prepared on April, 1971. This report focused on certain metals and their compounds and

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synthetic organic chemicals as toxic substances for which insufficient information was known and which, thereby, may significantly threaten man and his environment. From this initiative, legislation was introduced into Congress in 1971, but Congress, through 1971 and 1972, could not agree on a common legislative thrust and language. Time ran out in the 92nd Congress before a law was enacted.

This respite was short lived. The next Congress, the 93rd, tried again in 1973 and it too could not agree on a suitable bill. For nearly four years, Congress searched for a legislative approach which would afford adequate protection to human health and the environment while preserving an innovative and dynamic chemical industry. It was left to the 94th Congress to reach agreement, which they did in the Fall of 1976 and the legislation was signed into law by President Ford in October, 1976.

So, after 6 years of debate, TSCA was born. This was an important six years. Many of the environmental laws of our country were enacted during the 1960's and early 70's. TSCA was to be the "cap" on all of the laws - filling all the gaps that existed between the previous laws. It was also designed to put in place, a law to regulate all chemicals in commerce which may present an unreasonable risk in any part of the chemical's life cycle. Any part of the life cycle can be regulated from R&D through production, distribution and disposal.

But something happened in the 6 years it took to pass TSCA through Congress. The country awoke to find that some of the environmental laws enacted in the 60's and early 70's had a significant impact on the economy and on jobs. The laws as written did not require consideration of economic consequences. The Clean Air Act and the Clean Water Act were technologyforcing laws that required the use of feasible technological controls without concern for economic impact. Similarly our Occupational Safety and Health Act was also, in the setting of standards, a technologyforcing law. The thrust of these laws were technology forcing since the safe level for exposure was assumed to be synonymous with the lowest level achieveable.

In contrast, the Food Additive Amendments of 1958 to the Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act presented a different type of law, a "zero-risk" law. Under the thrust of the zero-risk law, it said "if a food additive is a carcinogen, we cannot permit any exposure since we cannot live with any such risk." Risk is the evaluation of severity of toxicity or hazardous properties

82

as related to the exposure of humans or the environment to the hazardous property. Under a zero-risk law, the regulation focuses on the hazards. If there is a hazard, there can be no acceptable exposure, no matter how small or insignificant. Under a zero-risk law, if the chemical presents a hazard, it is an unacceptable product.

In the late 1970's, the country's mood changed to accept not just some risk, but to include in the decision equation, specific consideration for economic factors, social benefits and impact on jobs. And so, the Clean Air Act was amended in 1977, changing the thrust of the law to include economic and practical considerations in carrying out the mandate of that law. And so too, the TSCA law that finally passed in late 1976, was a "balancing law," the first really true balancing law to be passed by Congress. It contains as part of the policy and intent statement (Section 2) of the Act, the following:

Section 2 (b) Policy - It is the policy of the U.S. that:

(1) adequate data should be developed with respect to the effect of chemical substances and mixtures on health and the environment and that the development of such data should be the responsibility of those who manufacture and those who process such chemical substances and mixtures;

(2) adequate authority should exist to regulate chemical substances and mixtures which present an unreasonable risk of injury to health or the environment, and to take action with respect to chemical substances and mixtures which are imminent hazards; and

(3) authority over chemical substances and mixtures should be exercised in such a manner as not to impede unduly or create unnecessary economic barriers to technological innovation while fulfilling the primary purpose of this Act to assure that such innovation and commerce in such chemical substances and mixtures do not present an unreasonable risk of injury to health or the environment.

Section 2 (c) INTENT OF CONGRESS -- It is the intent of Congress that the Administrator shall carry out this Act in a reasonable and prudent manner, and that the Administrator shall consider the environmental, economic, and social impact of any action the Administrator takes or proposes to take under this Act.

These statements of policy and intent are important inclusions in the TSCA law. Congress recognized the various approaches that had been taken in the past were not appropriate. It decided that a different approach was needed for regulating an industry whose very purpose in society requires that it and its people deal with chemical products, some of which have hazardous properties.

So in TSCA, we have a "balancing-type law" wherein the Administrator is required to consider not just the risks associated with a chemical, but also whether it is an unreasonable risk in light of the benefits associated with the chemical. For the Administrator to regulate a chemical substance or mixture under Section 6 of TSCA, the law requires that "the Administrator shall consider...

(A) the effects of such a substance or mixture on health and the magnitude of the exposure of human beings to such substance or mixture,

(B) the effects of such a substance or mixture on the environment and the magnitude of the exposure of the environment to such substance or mixture,

(C) the benefits of such a substance or mixture for various uses and the availability of substitutes for such uses and,

(D) the reasonably ascertainable economic consequences of the rule, after consideration of the effect on the national economy, small business, technological innovation, the environment and public health."

It is this background of the legislative intent of our Congress that makes TSCA a unique law. For the most part, the burden for making the necessary "unreasonable risk" finding rests with the government, and the law provides for information gathering (Section 8) from industry or others to help make this finding. Since each chemical has certain properties and, in its use, has certain exposures, potential risks, and certain benefits to society, each evaluation of the unreasonableness of the risks will depend on its own unique set of factors. Congress did not attempt to define unreasonable risk. Congress did not leave the agency an easy job. TSCA demands a balanced approach and it is this approach, with all the complexities it may present, that is the essence of TSCA. It is the only way such a law in our country can effectively regulate chemicls without severely affect+ ing innovation in the chemical industry.

With this background then, let us shift now to a discussion of principal provisions of the law, what timetables were built into the law and how far along the road we have come.

The basic thrust of TSCA is to control unreasonable risks, not all risks -- but unreasonable risks. To accomplish this, TSCA proposes that adequate data be developed with respect to the effect of chemical substances and mixtures on health and the environment and that authority exists to regulate those substances and mixtures which present an unreasonable risk.

This thrust is carried out in several ways throughout the Act in the principle sections:

Section 4 - authorizes the EPA to promulgate rules to require manufacturers and/or processors to test specific chemical substances or mixtures in order to evaluate their human health or environmental effects. This can be required when chemicals are suspected of being hazardous or when produced in substantial quantities which may present significant exposure to humans or the environment.

Section 4 has three other significant provisions: (1) It allows the EPA to prescribe the procedures or methodology used to conduct the testing.

(2) Testing costs are to be borne by the manufacturers and/or processors and if these firms cannot agree on allocation of testing, the EPA can establish the allocation of costs.

(3) Section 4 sets up the Interagency Testing Committee which can designate chemicals for priority testing. The EPA must respond to such designations by issuing a testing rule within 12 months of the designation or indicate why such testing is unnecessary.

Section 5 - empowers the EPA to screen new chemical substances and existing chemical substances to be manufactured for significant new uses before manufacturing starts. The industry is required to submit a notice describing the chemical and its use 90 days prior to manufacturing. The Agency has broad powers to limit manufacture or use if the EPA concludes that the chemical may present an unreasonable risk and significant unanswered questions exist. Section 5 also permits exemptions for R&D purposes, application for test marketing exemptions, and for those chemicals which present no unreasonable risk.

Section 6 - authorizes the EPA upon determination of an unreasonable risk to, by rule, ban the chemical, prohibit or limit certain uses or require labeling. In making the determination of unreasonable risk, the Agency must balance the risk against the economic and social disadvantages of eliminating or restricting the availability of the chemical. Section 6 also requires the Agency to regulate PCB's (Polychlorinated Biphenyl's), the only chemical specifically targeted by the law itself.

Section 7 - authorizes the EPA to move directly to Federal District Court against chemical substances or mixtures which are imminent hazards. Section 8 - enables the EPA to require recordkeeping and reporting of information. Part of this authority includes the direction for the Agency to compile an inventory of all chemical substances in commerce. The basic information gathering activities are: Section 8(a) - reporting of production, use, exposure and disposal information on specific chemicals; Section 8(c) - recordkeeping of significant adverse reactions; Section 8(d) - submission of lists and copies of health and safety studies; Section 8(e) - notification of substantial health or environmental risks.

To complete the comprehensive coverage of TSCA, the following Sections of TSCA also deserve your attention:

Section 9 - defines the relationship between TSCA and other Federal laws. In general, this section seeks to avoid overlapping or duplicative activities by the various Federal agencies with authority over chemicals.

Section 10 - authorizes the EPA to conduct research and to develop an effective system to collect and disseminate data submitted under this Act to others.

Section 11 - authorizes the EPA to conduct inspections and to issue subpoenas to collect information for enforcement of the Act.

Section 12 - describes the EPA's authority regarding chemical substances and mixtures manufactured for export.

Section 14 - outlines the responsibility of the Agency to protect trade secret and confidential business information it gathers in the process of implementing the Act.

Sections 15 and 16 - define prohibited acts under TSCA and prescribe penalties for violating the Act.

Sections 20 and 21 - authorize citizen action to compel compliance with the regulatory requirements of the Act.

These sections are all inter-related. They were intended to be that way. It should not be and is not the intent of the law that the Agency would administer each section separately. For example, Section 8 should not be used to gather information for information sake only. Section 8 is designed to help focus on those chemicals selected for consideration under a testing rule (Section 4) or regulation (Section 6).

In the law itself, several sections are self-implementing and others have specified timetables. For example:

Section 8(e) is a reporting responsibility which went into effect January 1, 1977 (the date the law was effective). This requires any manufacturer, processor or distributor who learns of information which supports a conclusion that a substance or mixture presents a substantial risk, must report this to the Agency immediately.

This was the first part of TSCA which impacted the industry. The responsibility of 8(e) reporting has been with the industry since Day One of TSCA. While not required to, the Agency did publish a guidance document in March of 1978 to assist industry in understanding its responsibilities. To date, some 400 notices have been submitted to the Agency. While the Agency has followed up with the notifiers, no other action has been taken by the Agency to date on the chemicals involved.

A second major provision of TSCA which is selfimplementing, is the requirement for a pre-manufacturing notice on new chemical substances. This requirement was triggered by the publication of the Initial TSCA Inventory in May of 1979. By law, the PMN program started 30 days after the inventory of chemical substances was published by the EPA. Starting on July 1, 1979, the PMN program has proceeded very successfully. As of February, 1982, some 1,100 PMN's have been reviewed through the PMN System. PMN's are being submitted at the rate of 700/year currently.

The remaining sections of TSCA require specific rulemaking or action by the Agency to implement the various provisions of the Act. The Agency has not been idle and has proposed numerous rules and procedures.

The Agency under the Carter Administration, however, tended to propose regulations which were judged by many to be beyond the statutory requirements of the law and in many cases unworkable. Of primary concern has been the adverse effect of PMN reporting regulations on innovation within the industry and the lack of an identifiable purpose and reasonableness in the various reporting rules proposed. The thrust of Agency action seemed to be that each section of TSCA should be implemented on its own merits without consideration for the overall inter-related actions and purposes of TSCA.

Thus, much of what the Agency has proposed, has been the subject of industry concern. Many in industry have submitted comments to the Agency expressing their objection to the approach taken by the Agency. At the same time, others such as the environmental groups have argued that TSCA is not working and that EPA has not fulfilled their obligation to implement the law. They have been particularly critical of missed deadlines by the Agency, that only a few final rules developed and the failure to regulate chemicals under TSCA. It would appear that their measurement of success of TSCA would be -- How many rules are written? or -- How many chemicals are banned? This does not seem to be a clear-thinking approach.

If your measurement of effectiveness of the law is what action has been taken, then here is how your scoreboard looks:

EPA Actions Under Section 6

10/15/78 - Ban use of CFC's (Chlorofluorocarbons)
as aerosol propellants in non-essential uses.
5/31/79 - Final rule on PCB struck down by U.S.
Court 10/31/80. Court ordered interim program
3/10/81.
3/11/80 - Final rule on disposal of wastes containing 2,3,7,8 Tetrachlorodibenzo-p-dioxin.

9/17/80 - Proposed rule on asbestos in school buildings.

10/7/80 - ANPR restricting production of CFC's.

EPA Actions Under Section 5

11/26/80 - Proposed significant new use rule (SNUR) n-Methanesulfonyl-p-toluene sulfonamide.

EPA Actions Under Section 4 (Testing)

Proposed Test Rules. 7/18/80 - Chloromethane. 7/18/80 - Chlorinated Benzenes. 6/5/81 - Nitrobenzene 6/5/81 - 1,1,1 Trichloroethane. 6/5/81 - Dichloromethane

Notice of Decisions Not to Propose Testing Rules

Acrylamide (health effects). Polychlorinated Terphenyls. Chlorinated Napthalenes. Benzidine dyes. O-toluidine dyes. Dianisidine dyes. To those of us who have worked closely with TSCA through the past 5 years, the Act is working, and has

88

achieved many of the goals established. This impact is not necessarily measurable by the yardsticks such as numbers of rules or regulatory actions. However, the impact is measurable. It can also be demonstrated by the conduct of the industry responding to the public and political environment which has led to the passage of TSCA and other environmental control laws. Today, responsible companies in the industry have initiated internal mechanisms which have produced the results intended by law.

An illustration of this has been the response of industry to the 8(e) notice requirements of the law. Most companies have established an internal communications system to collect potential 8(e) information, selected personnel to evaluate the information gathered, and have developed an expertise in handling this type of hazard reporting. Typically, the 8(e) notifier takes appropriate action or response on his own initiative to control or alleviate the risks involved. It has been commonplace for the notifier to advise his customers as well as his employees for the chemical involved of the information contained in the notice.

The list of 8(e) notices as they have been published or otherwise made available by the EPA or trade press are followed closely by health and safety departments of companies in all types of industries. Industry in general has developed methods to not just acquire and evaluate information, but also take responsive action.

Part of the ability of industry to respond to information such as 8(e) notices has been the result of development of health and safety units throughout industry. While some companies have had identifiable safety departments for many years, in many companies today, the organizational chart shows a health and safety department usually reporting at a high level of management. Obviously, each company has its own system or organization reflecting its own management style but, the point is -- companies respond in some way organizationally to fill the need.

I suggest that these steps would have occurred with or without TSCA or other laws being in place. I personally believe companies do respond to the needs expressed by the public and that the "marketplace" -the public's perception of what the responsible company should do -- has significant impact.

Without question, these illustrations demonstrate the fact that companies will respond to the thrusts of laws with or without the promulgation of specific regulations. In the law, Section 8(e) is only one short paragraph (8 lines long) that establishes the thrust of the law and goal to be accomplished. That is all we in industry should need -- tell us what the goal is and let us determine how we can best achieve it. We do not need specific instructions as to how we should carry out our responsibility to comply with the law.

In my opinion, the debate over the progress of TSCA thus far has found root in part from the lack of perception of what TSCA law really is. The significant changes in TSCA that occurred during its six-year gestation period may not be fully recognized nor accepted by some. It is the first truly "balancing law" the Agency has had to administer. In some respects, the expectation of some that TSCA should be rapidly regulating chemicals does not appreciate all of the requirements of TSCA and its policy statements.

Congress in writing TSCA Section 2 said the Congress finds that -- among the many chemical substances and mixtures which are constantly being developed and produced, there are some -- whose manufacturing may present an unreasonable risk --. This and other provisions of TSCA establish that the Congress, in reaching a decision on legislative approach, recognized that not all chemicals would present unreasonable It anticipated that the Agency would have to risks. seek out which chemicals may present unreasonable risk, establish priorities and proceed, through rulemaking, to regulate. In the first 4 years of TSCA, the EPA did not do this job well. The Agency is just now developing a program of exemptions from the PMN process for those chemicals which do not pose unreasonable risks.

To help set priorities for testing, the EPA has available, the assistance of the Interagency Testing Committee (ITC). The ITC was established by the Agency as directed by law and it came forward with its initial list of designated chemicals in October, 1977, meeting the time scheduled by the law. Approximately every six months thereafter, the ITC has submitted additional names to the Agency to add to the list. In all, some 9 lists including some 49 chemicals or chemical categories have been designated.

One of the criticisms of the Agency has been that they have failed to take action within the statutory 12-month period on the ITC list of chemicals. This resulted in a suit by the Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC) in May, 1979. The District Court ordered the EPA to prepare a plan for complying with the law. The EPA is now under court order to adhere to a schedule agreed upon for those chemicals in the first 6 lists submitted by the ITC.

Under the present EPA administration, there is every indication that TSCA implementation will speed up. The recently available draft of TSCA "Priorities for OTS Operation" prepared by Don Clay and his management team, suggests the Agency will direct their efforts toward two broad areas:

- 1) New Chemical Program
- 2) Existing Chemicals Program

The New Chemical Program Has Four Major Parts:

- 1) Review of PMN's submitted
- 2) Finalizing PMN requirements
- 3) Establishing PMN exemptions
- 4) Follow-up program for new chemicals

The Existing Chemical Program Has Five Major Parts:

1) Focus on reduction of unreasonable risks

2) Emphasize voluntary control by industry and the public

3) Concentrating evaluation and control efforts on specific problems

4) Directing effort at problems identified through specific TSCA mechanisms

5) Exchange technical information with industry, labor and others on specific problems

The report outlines in more detail the overall approach planned by the EPA for implementing TSCA. As a general comment, it would appear the Agency will focus its activity on those chemicals which are perceived to present major risks and will use the entire list of options open to them under TSCA to effectively evaluate the risk and take appropriate action. Their thrust will also apparently be to encourage voluntary action on the part of industry to control those situations which may present unreasonable risks. This will be particularly true for the testing program for chemicals including those on the ITC lists. Clearly the Agency expects the ITC list to serve as a priority for them and I believe we can expect to see action taken in the future on ITC-listed chemicals within the statutory time limit.

The overall outline of action indicated in the 100-Day Report is encouraging. The Agency seems ready to proceed with the implementation of TSCA in an orderly manner focused only on those particular chemicals which fit the definition in Section 2 --"some whose manufacture, processing, or distributing in commerce, use or disposal may present an unreasonable risk." Five years is a long time. However, when implementing a law as comprehensive as TSCA on an industry as complex as the chemical industry, it is far too short. Significantly, the Agency has accomplished two major actions: 1) the creation of the TSCA Inventory and, 2) the review of over 1,100 PMN's. Both tasks are noteworthy.

The inventory of some 55,000-plus chemicals was a major task. This document is critical to the working of TSCA and is being "copied" by others such as the European Economic Community in establishing their equivalent of TSCA for the 10-member countries of the European Common Market. The inventory in the U.S. has become a valuable tool not only for the Agency as it works with TSCA, but also for the chemical industry. It ranks in equal importance with all of the other major reference books used by the industry in its R&D activity and commercialization plans.

The PMN program has also been highly informative. With an experience factor developed by reviewing over 1,100 PMN's, a review of the data shows that the Agency has found reason to question only a very few chemicals as presenting unreasonable risks. While we in industry might have believed that -- there is nothing like --"seeing it -- to believe it." This experience alone has been an important lesson learned by the Agency which should have dramatic influence on what the Agency does from here on implementing TSCA. We hope that other countries in the European Economic Community and the greater number in the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development will use this experience in putting their somewhat different systems into operation to assess the risks of new chemicals.

The PMN program also demonstrates one other very significant fact. Most of the "new chemicals" coming through the PMN system are merely modifications of an existing type of chemistry. This fact has been helpful to the Agency since experience with the family of chemistry is helpful in making their evaluation and assessment of risks.

But this fact also says one other thing -- our industry's R&D effort is not producing "new chemistry." We continue to massage the old chemistry. Does this reflect the impact of the PMN regulation on innovation and invention? Are we not exploring new fields in R&D because the "new" fields of chemistry may be difficult to pursue with the uncertainty of the PMN process facing us? Or is it because our productivity in research is falling for reasons other than regulatory pressure? Whatever it is, it is clear that innovation has been adversely affected. The PMN process of TSCA as implemented thus far, has played a significant role in causing this, but it is the challenge for R&D management in our industry to take the steps necessary to create a climate in our research activities for innovation. The challenge is also present for the Agency to assure that their rules and regulations place only reasonable and prudent burdens on the industry as it invests in the new frontiers of the chemical world.

So the industry has completed 5 years of life under TSCA. We are still in business. But we have changed. Some of the changes come from responding to Some of our responses are to the "spirit of the law. TSCA" -- the public demands for responsive action that created the political atmosphere in which TSCA was originally conceived. From the EPA, we have seen several false starts in getting their act together. They started from This should not be too surprising. scratch in 1977 with only a handful of people. Today the Office of Toxic Substances is 600 strong. In fairness to the Agency, it takes time to hire and train the people to do an effective job with a new "balancingtype" law.

Where to from here? -- it is not difficult to pre-We will see TSCA implemented -- hopefully in a dict. reasonable and timely manner. The Agency has learned a lot about our industry, about our new chemicals and about how to implement the law effectively. Good communication between the Agency and the industry will be a "must" if the law is to work efficiently. While we may come to the discussion table from two different backgrounds and viewpoints, the only way to leave the table is with joint understanding of what truly needs to be done to manage the risks of interest in a reasonable and responsive way. It is in our overall best interest to see this done. It is simply good business. It is also good government! And it will require our best efforts to present our viewpoint positively, persuasively and effectively.

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94

Initiatives of Chemical Industry to Modify TSCA Regulations

STACIA DAVIS LE BLANC

Chemical Manufacturers Association, Washington, DC 20037

By way of brief background, I would like to summarize how CMA has organized itself to deal with TSCA, and describe some of the basic themes which we have followed for virtually all of the issues raised by the Act.

First of all, CMA conducts what are described as "Advocacy Activities" -- a term which embraces all of our communications with Congress, the regulatory agencies, the courts, and the administration. These activities are multidisciplinary. Whenever an advocacy issue is identified, that matter is staffed by various disciplines in CMA including Technical, Legal, Government Relations and Public Relations where appropriate.

CMA institutionalized the management of toxic substances control matters in the Chemical Regulations Advisory Committee (CRAC). This committee has a regime of task groups staffed by member company executives which deal with the various sections of TSCA. For instance, there is a testing committee for Section 4 matters, a reporting task group for Section 8 and related matters, and so on. The coordination of these task groups is managed by CRAC.

CRAC is the basic client organization within CMA. It consists of 15 company representatives, one-third of which are replaced each year by new representatives. This standing technical committee is served by CMA staff, outside consultants and outside counsel, as appropriate. While the various sections of the Toxic Substances Control Act are interrelated and interdependent this section-by-section task group structure has so far proved extremely effective in dealing with the various proposals which EPA has issued. Our key organizational theme, therefore, has been to utilize a multidisciplinary team concept to

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serve a specific client organization within CMA, which is responsible for addressing all TSCA related issues.

The general CMA philosophy in addressing TSCA issues over the preceding months and years has been very much a reflection of how EPA has addressed the Toxic Substances Control Act. Unfortunately, under the previous Administration, the philosophy of those within the Agency was to propose an implementation of the statute which in CMA's opinion exceeded the statutory limits of the provisions of TSCA. We refer to this as "statute busting." There may come a time in the history of the administration of a statute, when extending the limits of authority which Congress has bestowed upon an agency is appropriate. It clearly does not seem to be appropriate, however, for a statute in which the government has had little or no regulatory In any event, this is clearly the case experience. with TSCA. Not only did the previous Administration try to expand its authority under TSCA, but the Agency further complicated the implementation of TSCA by creating an extremely compartmentalized organizational structure. This resulted in Section 4 people not talking to Section 5 people, who in turn did not talk to Section 6 or Section 8 people -- and so on. What resulted was an ineffectively structured and unnecessarily expansionistic attitude toward TSCA.

This Agency approach, necessarily, had a great deal to do with how our industry responded to the Agency's proposals. First of all, a major portion of our comments had to define the rational limits and scope of the Agency's statutory authority. Some people thought we were excessively legalistic. We did not apologize, however, because it appeared clear to us that the Agency was going beyond the law in both fact and spirit.

Next in our response to EPA's proposals was to present a detailed critique of the particular proposal which the Agency was bringing forth, and in addition -and this is most important -- to offer a constructive, rational alternative to that proposal, which not only met the goals of the Act, but was within the limits and the scope prescribed by Congress.

This three-part philosophy of our responses -legal evaluations, policy critiques and technical evaluations based on the need for "good science" at all regulatory stages and presentation of constructive alternatives, led to other operating philosophies.

In general, because the Act itself is interrelated, we had to address virtually every TSCA proposal by the Agency. We left product specific proposals to the affected groups of manufacturers to raise matters specific to that particular product. We did take the opportunity to address generic issues in those proposals, however, in an effort to protect the larger interests of our industry in future rulemaking activities.

Another practical operating philosophy which we followed was to carefully and extensively communicate with other trade associations and business groups to assure the positions we took were not inappropriately inconsistent with positions taken by those organizations. A considerable amount of time and paperwork was devoted to this interindustry communications effort.

Another theme which we constantly reiterated in all of our communications with EPA on TSCA, and indeed in all other advocacy matters, was the need for regulatory action to be based upon adequate scientific data and defensible conclusions. Historically, the Agency had been too quick to impose requirements on the basis of incomplete, controversial or ambiguous scientific evidence.

We also take the approach in our presentations to the government -- in TSCA as well as in other advocacy issues -- to request less reliance on formal requirements and more emphasis on voluntary action and informal negotiation to achieve TSCA's objectives. Inflexible regulations are time-consuming, expensive and cumbersome to implement. Enforceable performance oriented standards can be designed. Unnecessary disputes over the legality of EPA's actions might be prevented, and needed regulations can be put in place faster.

While several EPA initiatives under TSCA have become final, many more are in the formative stages. Under Sections 4, 5, 6, 8 and 12 of TSCA, EPA has developed a large number of proposals, some of which await final action. If implemented in a reasonable manner, many of EPA's pending proposals can provide a viable basis for implementing TSCA. I want to emphasize, in fact, that CMA believes that TSCA as written is workable. The following discussion will demonstrate how industry has worked with the EPA in applying the major provisions of TSCA in a manner that is reasonable, cost-effective and consistent with the original intent of Congress.

Section 4 of TSCA authorizes EPA to require manufacturers or processors to test specified existing chemical substances when available data and experience are insufficient to evaluate their health and environmental effects. The EPA may, under certain circumstances, prescribe the methodology used to conduct the testing to assure reliable results. Testing costs are borne by manufacturers or processors.

CMA has stressed the need for EPA to establish an adequate data base on prospective chemicals before publishing a proposed test rule. The Agency needs to be fully informed about the chemicals under consideration for testing. The Interagency Testing Committee (ITC) which recommends chemicals for testing to the EPA, needs to develop a more complete profile of testing candidates. This has been accomplished to some extent by having the ITC work more closely with industry at the early stages of an assessment of a test rule.

This approach is a significant improvement to some of the initial proposals. In the past, EPA devoted excessive time and effort to overly ambitious testing approaches that were questionable on legal as well as scientific grounds. For example, ITC had recommended several broad "categories" of chemicals for EPA consideration for testing that raised issues of defining the members of the category, and allocating costs among the companies who make the chemicals within that defined category. CMA has recommended that ITC avoid broad designations and list the specific chemicals if appropriate.

EPA's testing program was initially excessively legalistic and formalized. Recently, however, the Agency has entered into dialogue with industry. We have encouraged this development generally, and specifically promoted consideration of EPA/industry negotiated testing programs. By ensuring that industry aware of EPA's testing priorities and by is communicating with industry representatives at an early stage of the test rule development process, EPA can promote voluntary testing of chemicals. Recently, much of the needed testing is being conducted by industry as a result of voluntary negotiations between EPA and the affected manufacturers. As a result, chemicals of priority concern are being further evaluated more efficiently than if EPA initiated a full rulemaking proceeding.

CMA has also urged greater reliance on informed scientific judgment of the test sponsor. This is in line with our general theme that regulatory decisions should be made on the basis of "good science." EPA had expressed great interest in new and controversial areas of testing, such as neurotoxicity and mutagenicity, where there is substantial scientific disagreement over proper test methods and correct interpretation of test results. CMA has stressed that the Agency should focus on developing straightforward test requirements that do not raise unresolved scientific issues.

Section 5 of TSCA is another area of much regulatory activity. Section 5 authorizes EPA to screen "new" chemicals, and "significant new uses" of existing chemicals before they are manufactured so as to identify their potential adverse effects on health EPA's actions under Section 5 have or the environment. an impact on the future development of new chemicals. Congress was well aware of the potential for stifling innovation and designed Section 5 so it would impose minimum burdens on manufacturers while still identifying and eliminating unreasonable risks as required under the Act.

Unfortunately, EPA initially proposed ambitious regulations that could have expanded premanufacture notification ("PMN") requirements well beyond the limits embodied in the statute. For example, EPA had testified in Congress that manufacturers would merely be required to complete and submit a two-page PMN form. But the PMN that EPA proposed in January of 1979 was an extremely detailed form which called for nearly 40 pages of mandatory information, and 20 more pages of CMA, and other industry optional information. commenters, urged drastic modifications in EPA's proposal in order to conform to the terms of the statute and lessen the burden on innovation. Ιn particular, CMA developed and provided to EPA, a draft PMN form which called for much less information, but would still be adequate to facilitate EPA's review function under Section 5.

EPA responded to industry concerns by publishing reproposed regulations that were substantially more focused in scope. Nevertheless, industry still had substantial reservations about many aspects of EPA's reproposal. For example, CMA argued that EPA's reproposed PMN form was still more elaborate than necessary and called for information that EPA lacked statutory authority to require. In addition, industry expressed reservations about EPA's continued interest in prescribing supplemental reporting requirements. Finally, CMA objected strenuously to highly elaborate procedures that EPA had developed for asserting and substantiating confidentiality claims. Industry felt it was highly unnecessary to require such substantiation at the time a PMN is submitted, rather than after a request for the disclosure of PMN

information had been received under the Freedom of Information Act ("FOIA") -- which is how it is done under most other EPA regulations.

While debate over the merits of its proposed regulations has continued, EPA has simultaneously received and reviewed almost 2,000 PMNs. The Agency's premanufacture review program has been shaped by the explicit requirements of the statute, supplemented by informal Agency guidance, and thus has provided an opportunity to test the industry position that Section 5 can be implemented effectively without detailed regulations.

In CMA's judgment, EPA's experience largely confirms the industry position. In general, the PMN program has been functioning smoothly and efficiently in the absence of regulations. Most PMN submitters have provided EPA with adequate information in their PMNs which reflects the fact that the chemicals have generally presented little or no risks. Submitters have almost always been responsive to voluntary requests for follow-up information. In addition, where EPA has expressed concerns about the health and environmental effects of particular chemicals, many submitters have taken informal action to allay those concerns, including voluntary suspension of the PMN.

At the same time, however, there is emerging evidence that PMN requirements have significantly inhibited innovation in the chemical industry. Section 5 has inevitably had some impact on innovation, and EPA regulations that add to the basic statutory requirements are likely to impose burdens on the chemical industry that are unnecessary. That is why CMA recommends that the Agency, at a minimum, limit those regulations to the clear requirements of the Requirements such as supplemental reporting statute. of PMN information, mandatory consumer contacts, advance substantiation of confidentiality claims, and the "invalidation" of incomplete PMNs, will only serve to increase the costs of a process that already imposes substantial burdens. Since EPA can adequately protect human health and the environment without these requirements, they should be eliminated.

The chemical industry also encourages EPA to reexamine and rescind its Premanufacture Testing Policy. While ostensibly voluntary, this policy embodies the Agency's position that all, or nearly all, new chemicals should undergo a minimum "base set" of tests or, in OECD terms, a "Minimum Premarketing Set of Data" (MPD), which could greatly increase the costs of most PMN submittals. As Congress drafted TSCA, the decision whether to test a new chemical, and how much testing to do, resides initially with the PMN submitter and must be tailored to the particular circumstances of each new chemical. Any action by EPA which results in unnecessary testing, or prevents PMN submitters from balancing the economic and safety factors unique to their particular chemicals, will add unjustifiably to PMN costs, and needlessly inhibit innovation without a commensurate benefit.

As a footnote, this philosophy towards chemical testing is in contrast with that of the Europeans' "Sixth Amendment." The Sixth Amendment requires the development of "base set" data through mandatory testing conducted before the chemical may be marketed. The U.S. has had much more experience in implementing a regulatory scheme to evaluate the effects of chemicals, and recognizes the great costs and burdens of performing unnecessary tests. Also in the U.S., much data has already been developed that is available for evaluation of many chemicals. Further testing would be superfluous in many instances. That is why the EPA must first make a showing that a particular chemical may present an unreasonable risk or cause significant human or environmental exposure before designating it for further testing.

In addition, CMA has petitioned the EPA to establish exemptions under Section 5 of TSCA for certain chemicals. These exemptions fall into three categories -- exemptions for site-limited intermediates; low volume chemicals; and polymers. For instance, a substantial portion of the PMN filings received by EPA to date have been for intermediates and high molecular weight polymers. The risk potential of these chemicals is unusually low and they rarely require careful evaluations by the Agency. In addition, many new site-limited intermediates are typically manufactured in small volumes and are unable to absorb the costs of PMN submissions. For these reasons, CMA petitioned EPA to grant exemptions as permitted under Section 5(h)(4) of TSCA. EPA recently proposed such exemptions in August. Although some problems were raised regarding EPA's proposals during the comment period, it is likely that by 1983 the final exemption regulations will be in place.

Another important provision under Section 5 of TSCA is the "significant new use" notification requirement (called "SNUR"). A "SNUR" is designed to notify EPA when a chemical, that has undergone PMN review, presents a significant new distribution in commerce. The criteria defining a significant new use includes projected production volume, projected uses and projected exposure. A disturbing development last year was EPA's interest in using SNURs to monitor the commercial development of new chemicals that have completed the PMN review process. CMA submitted comments on the first "significant new use rule" directed at a specific chemical. Although SNURs may be appropriate in certain circumstances, CMA objected to the indiscriminate use of SNURs to follow-up on new chemicals after initial manufacture because it could subject such chemicals to a burdensome series of notification requirements throughout their life-cycles. Such recurring PMN requirements would increase the short-term and long-term costs of commercializing new chemicals, especially when more effective options are available.

I would like now to discuss a third major area of TSCA -- the recordkeeping, retention, and reporting of information under Section 8 of TSCA. The basic purpose of this information gathering mechanism of TSCA is to assist EPA in acquiring information necessary for the Agency's various regulatory activities under the Act. Section 8 is not a substantive regulatory provision. It functions as an adjunct to other provisions to provide EPA with the information relevant to the evaluation of the health or environmental effects of chemical substances.

An obvious and all-important aspect of Section 8 is that it is a mechanism to facilitate the acquisition of information that EPA needs. Accordingly, the proper test of EPA's performance under Section 8 is not the amount of information that EPA acquires or the number of companies required to report, but the Agency's success in building a data-base for accomplishing its specific risk assessment, testing and chemical control responsibilities under Sections 4, 5, 6 and 7 of TSCA. In view of this purpose, it was of great concern that EPA has repeatedly failed to define carefully, and then articulate fully, the connection between a proposal under Section 8, and a specific regulatory objective under some other provision of TSCA.

All too often, the Agency's proposals appeared to seek information for its own sake. As a result, EPA's reporting proposals often required the submission of data that are of questionable validity or limited relevance in EPA's risk assessment activities under other TSCA provisions. They also called for far more information than EPA had the capability to process and evaluate in a reasonable period of time.

102

An example of these problems was EPA's proposed "preliminary assessment" rule under Section 8(a). This rule would have covered 2,300 chemicals and affects a very large number of manufacturers and processors. Nevertheless, EPA's proposal failed to explain why the Agency believed it could promptly process information on this many chemicals, what precise criteria were used to select chemicals for inclusion in EPA's reporting program, and exactly how EPA intended to use the information submitted to reach conclusions concerning the risk potential of the 2,300 chemicals involved. Fortunately, in the final rule, EPA has rejected a generic approach to Section 8(a) follow-up of new chemicals and requires reporting only where it has identified specific concerns. The list of 2;300 chemicals has been reduced to 250. The rules are now structured to require reporting by manufacturers and importers, with follow-up processor reporting, which significantly reduces the burden on submitters.

Another example of excessively broad regulations is EPA's requirement of reporting allegations of "significant adverse reactions" under Section 8(c). First of all, these "allegations" are by definition unsubstantiated, and they often will be inaccurate or misleading. Moreover, broad reporting requirements might encompass many thousands of allegations throughout industry. Secondly, as written in the statute, this is a recordkeeping provision, not a reporting requirement. This proposal, again, goes beyond the statutory requirements of TSCA and has little value in achieving its objectives. We are encouraged that EPA is reconsidering some of its basic concepts under the proposal before publishing the final rule.

EPA's previous efforts to expand its authority would have resulted in the submission of data of questionable quality, and the imposition of unnecessary burdens on industry. Industry has recommended a more focused approach under which EPA could still obtain more than enough sound information to support its regulatory activities under TSCA. The reporting provisions of Section 8 are sufficiently broad to allow EPA to accomplish its objectives without departing from the basic statutory framework established by Congress.

Section 8(d) governs EPA acquisition of health and safety studies. It authorizes EPA to promulgate rules requiring any person who manufactures, processes or distributes in commerce any chemical substance or mixture, or proposes to do so, to submit lists and/or copies of health and safety studies. EPA may exclude certain types of studies if it finds their submission to be unnecessary to carry out the purposes of TSCA.

EPA proposed and reproposed its Section 8(d) rule and CMA submitted extensive comments. CMA expressed concern that the proposal applied to a broad and indiscriminate selection of chemicals with little attempt to explain why reporting on these chemicals is needed. The legislative history and Sections 2 and 9 of TSCA require EPA to minimize the burden on reporters by seeking only information necessary to achieve its objectives under TSCA. Many of CMA's concerns were addressed by EPA in the final Section 8(d) rule published in September.

Although the international aspects of TSCA will be addressed in detail by another speaker, I thought it appropriate to mention that CMA and industry are participating in the development of those issues raised by the various sections of TSCA. For instance, in the area of testing chemicals under Section 5, there are differences between the U.S. and the European approaches regarding when testing should be required, which I have already mentioned.

Another area of international controversy is the export notification requirements under Section 12(b). EPA's regulation requires that (1) exporters notify the EPA of their intent to export chemicals that are subject to certain listed regulatory activities under TSCA, (2) that EPA notify the foreign government of the importation of such chemicals, and (3) that EPA provide TSCA-related information to those governments. CMA submitted a petition to EPA proposing an alternative which provides for an annual dissemination of information concerning all relevant regulatory activities, listed in Section 12(b), to all foreign governments. This comprehensive mechanism would provide all relevant information to foreign governments in a timely fashion. If in the interim there was a finding that a chemical presented an imminent hazard, a special notice could be sent. In this manner each government could employ its own authority to regulate chemicals imported from anywhere in the world, not just from the United States. Furthermore, to the extent a Section 12(b) notice might adversely affect commerce involving a regulated chemical, all exporters operate under similar constraints. We also suggested procedures designed to protect confidential information as required under Section 14 of TSCA.

The international issues raised by TSCA interface with several arenas -- including the State Department, Commerce Department, EPA, the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), the European Economic Community (EEC) and the United Nations. CMA continues to keep up-to-date on the latest developments in these areas and is an active participant in developing reasonable and practical international policies.

As you can see, during the regulatory development of TSCA, the chemical industry has been alert to the practical impacts of the law and its ensuing regulations. Representatives of individual manufacturers, CMA and other trade associations, have participated at every opportunity to provide EPA with the factual data it requires and to show the practical implications of its proposals in order to prevent EPA from over-extending its power beyond its statutory authority. CMA has asked EPA to be more sensitive to the impact of these regulatory requirements on innovation and other economic aspects of this industry.

EPA began with overly ambitious plans which have required reexamination in light of practical and legal considerations that it first overlooked. If EPA focuses and modifies its proposals in accordance with industry recommendations, it will be able to implement TSCA in a reasonable, cost-effective, yet efficient and timely, manner.

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Management of TSCA-Mandated Information

C. ELMER and J. R. CONDRAY

Monsanto Company, St. Louis, MO 63167

The Toxic Substances Control Act contains several sections which require the government to collect and manage information obtained from industry and other sources. This paper itemizes these requirements, and reviews the status and implications of each. Industry's experience in collecting appropriate information is outlined as are some unanticipated benefits derived from mandated information management. Examples of one company's experience in managing information will be detailed. Relationships with information requirements in other countries and their implication to U.S. corporations in responding to TSCA regulations are discussed. EPA's requirements for broad information collection and implementation of management has resulted in only partial compliance. Some of the future activities as well as foreseeable problems are discussed. One response to a TSCA mandate has been the development of a Chemical Substances Information Network (CSIN). Although the concept is recognized as valid it may be expanding beyond its originally envisioned scope. Benefits as well as potential dangers in making unevaluated information readily available to undiscriminating users are cited with examples.

The Toxic Substances Control Act or TSCA, contains no less than 60 authorities for developing or disseminating information. (1) These can be categorized into 15 significant classes of information of which 8 related to requirements by industry, as shown on Table 1.

Congress charged the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to administer TSCA and, in assigning authority provided two basic routes for implementation. In the first case, Congress spelled out in the act what information EPA was to provide and made such

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Table I

TSCA MANDATED REQUIREMENTS FOR DEVELOPING AND REPORTING OF INFORMATION BY INDUSTRY

Section 5(a)	Premanufacturing Notice and Significant New Uses
5(b)	Submission of Test Data as required by Section 4(a)
5(e)	Regulation pending adequate information
8(a)	General Record-keeping
8(b)	Inventory
8(c)	Records of Allegations
8(d)	Health and Safety Studies
8(e)	Notice of Substantial Risk

requirements either immediately effective or to be triggered by some other TSCA activity. In the second case, Congress provided EPA with authority for information gathering. However, in this case, EPA must go through a formal regulatory rulemaking process with opportunities for public comment. In the latter case, the submission of voluntary information to the agency is many times preferred by both the regulated community as well as EPA. Voluntary sharing of information is a form of mandatory information submission. The cooperation of the regulated community is offered often in the hope of satisfying EPA's information needs, without EPA issuing potentially overburdensome regulations. Likewise, EPA benefits through closer interaction with the information sources and the elimination of time consuming, resource intensive rulemaking activity.

Manufacturers, processors and/or distributors of chemical substances in the chemical industry are faced with three basic types of TSCA-mandated information situations:

- 1. Those mandated by Congress directly in the act;
- Those required by EPA through formal rulemaking as authorized by the act;
- 3. Those voluntarily provided in anticipation or in lieu of formal rulemaking.

While these three approaches apply to many sections of TSCA, this paper will concentrate on only three: Section 5 - Manufacturing and Processing Notices, Section 8 - Reporting and Retention of Information and Section 10 - Research Development, Collection, Dissemination, and Utilization of Data.

Monsanto's experience illustrates both the positive and negative impacts on one chemical company under TSCA sections 5 and 8. For a broader perspective, refer to the Chemical Manufacturers Association publication "The First Four Years of the Toxic Substance Control Act." (2) The authors' views are also presented relative to EPA's management of information under section 10.

Pertinent Sections and Status

A brief description and status of these three sections will help set the stage.

Section 5 deals with the notification to EPA of new substances or significant new uses of existing chemicals. Table 2 outlines the information requirements of this section. The Premanufacturing Notice (PMN) requirement of the act, as required under section 5(a)(1)(A), went into effect, as mandated by Congress, 30 days after the TSCA inventory was published, according to Section 8(b). Since taking effect on July 1, 1979, over 1250 PMN's have been submitted. This activity has been one of the top agency priorities.

Other section 5 requirements have either not been finalized or are tied in some fashion to the PMN activity.

Table II

TSCA SECTION 5 INFORMATION REQUIREMENT STATUS

Sub- Section	Authority	Status
5(a)(1)(A)	Submit a notice, at least 90 days prior to manufacture or processing of a chemical substance not on the inventory required under Section 8 (b)	Went into effect on July 1, 1979 (30 days, after publica- tion of inventory) as mandated by Con- gress. To date over 1250 notices have been submitted. EPA published guidance in the form of in- terim policy (44FR63006) and several proposed rules, the most recent being (44FR59764).
5(a)(1)(B)	Submit a notice at least 90 days before an "existing" chemical substance can be manufactured or processed for a use that EPA has de- termined by rules, is a "significant new use"	Not finalized. Proposed rule issued for N-me- thane-sulfonyl-p- toluenesulfonamide which would require a notice if the volume exceeds 1000 pounds, (45FR78970).
5(b)(1)	Submit test data with notice as re- quired under Section 5(a)(1)(A) if covered by a Section 4 test rule	Went into effect July 1, 1979 when 5(a)(1)(A) activated. No sub- missions to date.

8. ELMER AND CONDRAY

Table II (cont.)

Sub Section	Authority	<u>Status</u>
5(b)(2)	If substance in question is on Risk List under section 5(b)(4) then, submit data with notice as required under section 5(b)(1)(A) which shows substance with respect to notice will not present and un- reasonable risk	Went into effect July 1, 1979 when 5(a)(1)(A) activated. No submissions to date (see 5(b)(4)).
5(Ъ)(4)	The Administrator may rule, compile and keep a current list (Risk List) of substances that may be present and unreason- able risk of injury to health or the environ- ment	No action.
5(d)	Defines the content of a notice under section 5(a) to be described in Section 8(a)(2) A-D and F-G	Went into effect July 1, 1979 when 5(9)(1)(A) activated.
5(e)	Require a submitter of a notice under section 5(a) to submit additional information if EPA has insufficient information and have reason to believe the substance may present an unreasonable risk of injury to health or environment	EPA has issued several 5(e) orders. None has been chal- lenged, and all notifiers to date have with- drawn the no- tices rather than submit additional in- formation.

(Cont. on next page)

In TSCA's Impact on Society and Chemical Industry; Ingle, G.; ACS Symposium Series; American Chemical Society: Washington, DC, 1983.

Table II (cont.)

<u>Sub</u> Section	Authority	Status
5(h)(1)	The administrator may upon application exempt any person from the notification requirements of sec- tion 5(a) or (b) if the substance in question is limited to test marketing	Numerous test marketing appli- cations have been submitted and approved.
5(h)(4)	The administrator may upon application and by rule exempt the manufacturer from all or part of the section 5 requirements	Applications for exemption have been filed by individuals and several industry associations. Nothing finalized to date.

In TSCA's Impact on Society and Chemical Industry; Ingle, G.; ACS Symposium Series; American Chemical Society: Washington, DC, 1983. Section 8 is the primary information gathering authority under TSCA. Requirements and implementations status is shown on Table 3. Section 8(a) grants broad authority to the Administrator of EPA and permits EPA to obtain reports as they may "reasonably require." EPA's only burden is to request the information through a formal rulemaking procedure. To date, EPA has not finalized any rulemaking under section 8(a) except reporting requirements for two specific chemicals. (TRIS and PBBs). The agency has actively pursued section 8 implementation. However, it has finalized rules for only the inventory requirements (section 8(b)) and has organized to handle the management of substantiated risk notices mandated by Congress under section 8(e).

This paper does not address EPA plans for further implementation of sections 5 and 8 of TSCA. The agency is active in both areas. For information on future plans refer to the most recent EPA publication of its events calendar $(\underline{3})$ and EPA Office of Toxic Substances report Priorities for OTS Operation $(\underline{4})$.

Section 10 is a Congressional mandate to EPA for management of the massive amounts of information that flow into the agency under TSCA authority.

Under Section 10(b)(1), responsibility is assigned to an interagency committee to establish, within EPA, an effective system for collection, dissemination to other federal departments and agencies, and use of data submitted under TSCA.

Paragraph (2) of the same section calls for establishing an effective system for retrieval of toxicological and other scientific data which could be useful to the administrator in carrying out the purposes of TSCA.

Under section 10 authority, EPA has a Chemical Substances Information Network (CSIN) prototype under test by industry, academia, unions and state government offices. The system is intended to permit easier access to existing data resources.

Monsanto's Experience

Monsanto's experience with management of information mandates under sections 5 and 8 fall into the three categories as outlined above:

- (1) Compliance with TSCA (Congress) mandates;
- (2) Compliance with EPA TSCA rulemaking;
- (3) Voluntary submission and actions.

Monsanto, like many chemical firms, had a product safety program in place long before passage of TSCA. The Monsanto program from its inception embraced the spirit and in many cases the letter of what later appeared as the law. In some situations TSCA has improved the focus of Monsanto's information management and has been beneficial. In other cases we have provided constructive criticism of EPA proposed rules which required information submission and management with no specific objective.

TABLE III

TSCA Section 8 Information Requirement Status

Sub- Section	Authority	<u>Status</u>
8(a)	Retain and submit to EPA reports as the Administrator may require	Not finalized. Proposed rule issued which would require submission of general exposure information for 2300 chemicals (45FR13646).
	Submit notice of manufacture or import of Tris (2,3-dibromo- propyl) phosphate and Polybrominated Biphenyls	Final rule issued 44FR33525. Proposed rule for record keeping reporting of Asbestos issued 44FR8200. Not finalized.
8(b)	Compile, keep current and publish an inven- tory of each chemi- cal manufactured or processed in the United States	Final rule issued 42FR64572. Inven- tory compiled and published. Inven- tory kept current by EPA and updates periodically pub- lished, the most recent issue June 1980.
8(c)	Retain and submit to EPA records if sig- nificant adverse re- actions to health or the environment, alleged to have been caused by a substance or mixture	Not finalized. Proposed rule issued which would require automatic re- porting after 3 allegations received (45FR47008).

In TSCA's Impact on Society and Chemical Industry; Ingle, G.; ACS Symposium Series; American Chemical Society: Washington, DC, 1983.

TABLE III (Cont.)

Sub- Section	Authority	Status
8(d)	Submit lists of health and safety studies conducted or initiatied or known to, or re- asonably ascer- tainable and when required submit actual copies of studies	Not finalized. Final rule issued (43FR30984) but revoked (44FR6099) Rule reproposed which listed 67 chemicals or cate- gories of sub- stances which would require reporting (44FR77470).
8(e)	Submit notice to EPA of information which reasonably supports the conclusion that a substance or mix- ture presents a sub- stantial risk of in- jury to health or the environment.	Immediately effective on passage of TSCA October 11, 1976. EPA published guidance for com- pliance (42FR45362) and (43FR11110). Over 400 notices filed to date.

The first specific information activity initiated under TSCA was the development of a policy and procedure for handling section 8(e) notices. It went into effect immediately after passage of the act since this requirement was a congressional mandate. A corporate system was established to permit individuals in the organization to discharge their personal responsibility by reporting up through a communications channel. The system is still in place and functioning. Since trivial concerns that enter the system must be processed, it has placed a burden that did not exist under our previous product safety program. The process has, however, improved communication flow.

The 8(b) inventory accumulation was the next major activity. For a decentralized company like Monsanto or, for that matter, most major chemical companies, the experience of centralized information gathering was a new experience. However, we believe that the experience not only was novel, but proved to be beneficial from several points of view. First of all, it enabled us to evolve a network of expertise. Second it gave us a central data-base on which to build other information important from a corporate point of view, and permit a one-time expense for developing a system. Third, it revealed that we needed to improve our data files in some areas. And, fourth, it gave our central staff departments some surprises as to substance locations. We used the Chemical Abstract Service Registry Profile capabilities to gather all the known synonyms and added our internal numeric and common identifiers to access the file via dozens of possible names or numbers.

The inventory of products, isolated intermediates, imports and useful byproducts was initially collected in a complex database with room for additional substances and attributes. For TSCA submission, computer tapes were then easily produced with appropriate plant location grouping and CAS Registry number and inventory number identification. This not only saved considerable clerical effort but assured accuracy in transcription and form preparation.

For Monsanto, the core inventory naturally led to an expanded corporate inventory which was placed into this new database. It now includes raw materials, supplies and a considerable list of other types of substances and physical agents encountered in the workplace.

The original inventory file has grown into a wide ranging data-base with utility for emergency response, Material Safety Data Sheet information and is the cornerstone for Monsanto's Occupational Exposure and Medical Systems. Therefore, the original centralized effort has borne considerable fruit in addition to and independent of the TSCA inventory.

Monsanto's experience with information-gathering and reporting under section 8(d) - Health and Safety Studies - has not been as rewarding as the inventory activity. On July 8, 1978 EPA issued a Final Rule requiring submission of lists and copies of Health and Safety Studies for the chemicals and chemical categories included on the first two Interagency Testing Committee Priority lists. Monsanto manufactured, processed or distributed several materials on the list including some that fell into the categories given. Unfortunately, EPA did not define the scope of categories listed. This led to a great deal of confusion as to the coverage of the rule. Monsanto's submission for one category, the alkyl phthalates, numbered over sixty reports. A great deal of clerical work was necessary to organize, reproduce and to submit the one-foot-high stack of reports. We later found out, much to our concern, that this information had not been made available to all groups in EPA responsible for alkyl phthalates. Monsanto benefited from EPA's rulemaking as a result of the mandated organization activity. However, the primary objective of making the information available to EPA for use was not accomplished.

On January 31, 1979, EPA revoked the 8(d) rule and has since reproposed a new rule. Monsanto's comments on the reproposal address the concerns experienced with the first rule and other suggested modifications.

Monsanto's experience in implementing Section 5(a)(1) - PMN requirements - again highlighted the need for centralization. While existing product safety programs for new products were in place, a need surfaced to assure corporate uniformity, to prevent possible duplication and to coordinate internal information management and EPA submissions. A central staff department now provides a TSCA management function to assist in submissions and coordination of all documentation. This has worked well for the PMN's submitted to date. We have not waited for regulatory mandates as to the type and amount of toxicology testing to develop or submit, but have followed our internal testing policies prior to commercialization of a product.

All Monsanto PMN's submitted to date have voluntarily included information beyond that mandated by the act. This has, in some cases, included: Material Safety Data Sheets, Label information, details regarding the industrial hygiene programs in the proposed manufacturing site(s), risk assessment information and other related information. While this information is not mandated, we believe in most situations it is to our benefit to assist the agency in this way.

EPA's Information Management

Information management by EPA, as mandated under TSCA has centered on the development of CSIN (Chemical Substances Information Network). In response to Section 10(b) this information management system has evolved to retrieve toxicological and other scientific data which could be useful to the Administrator in carrying out the act. After several years and about an equal number of millions of dollars, currently a prototype networking system is under evaluation by up to 50 organizations. A wide ranging user group - in terms of both interest and capability-is providing a first pass to establish utility of the system.

Simply put, the CSIN concept appears to be pure information management. It does not create or store data or references. It points and selects - with a broader choice of data-bases and via easier techniques than heretofore possible. An analogy of a library might be useful. Visualize a central catalogue for a vast interdisciplinary library with book and journal holdings which contains all references to a particular subject regardless of the particular source document. Access to the system is through a terminal which responds to relatively easy instructions. Current data-bases would be compared to many independent libraries, in different locations, with indices which have different methods for searching. CSIN enables the user to search all of these via a centralized, unified, methodology.

CSIN administration and planning have been performed by about 25 federal agencies, including EPA, DHHS, HTP and CEQ. EPA has played the central role in implementation of plans.

Two concerns arise which CSIN administration has not addressed so far. First, the emphasis has been to provide access only through well-established existing sources. No apparent effort has been made to consider the need for drawing together the multiplicity of information submitted to the EPA Office of Pesticides and Toxic Substances in an easily accessible form for agency use. With the exception of information contained in the Chemicals In Commerce Information System (CICIS), developed primarily to accommodate TSCA Inventory and other related information, regulatory personnel often are not aware what is already available and request repetitive submissions from industry. Furthermore, conclusions are drawn only from publicly available data-bases. Data already available within the agency are not readily accessible for its own personnel. Apparently, this situation is a result of non-responsiveness, so far, to TSCA Section 10's mandate.

The second concern or problem is more difficult to deal with and could have more far-reaching implications. It involves the lack of discrimination in the choice of information files made available through CSIN as well as the lack of concern about the reliability of the information received. The greater the technical expertise of users, the less concern for these questions since this group will seek the original source and discriminate between "good" and "unreliable" data. CSIN, however, attempts to make exhaustive searches available through simplified methodologies with the implication that the unsophisticated or nontechnical user can readily obtain "all" available data.

Our experience has shown that computerized searching for information results in a false sense of credibility for what is retrieved. Additional confidence, particularly on the part of non-technically trained searchers is gained since this is a government created system. We know this doesn't necessarily make sense or sound rational. However, we are dealing with people and subjects which are not always rational. A need to substantiate or justify an emotionally based opinion via so-called "hard" data, regardless where it comes from or how reliable it is, can result in wide-spread and far-reaching implications.

As an example, the NIOSH-RTECS (Registry of Toxic Effects of Chemical Substances) is a reasonable basis for beginning a search regarding the toxicity of a substance. The printed version contains some 47,000 materials and its contents are thoroughly documented in its introduction and file description. The most commonly reported effect is the LDLo or lowest lethal dose found in a species or the LD50 which is the lethal dose for 50 percent of the group under test. ONLY THE LOWEST DOSES ARE PRESENTED IN RTECS, REGARDLESS OF TEST OR LABORATORY RELIABILITY. To the unskilled, these selection criteria can easily be missed. and critical judgements made on the basis of one highly variable test method.

The file lists all chemicals on which toxicity data have been found. In other words, the title is <u>not</u>: Registry of Toxic Substances. Yet, some believe that all substances in the Registry are necessarily toxic under any conditions of use. Some state regulations have even been drafted based on this belief.

Computerized data-base versions of RTECS give the capability of extracting substance lists by "Classification Codes." For example, one might ask the system to search for all compounds with classification Code of TUMORIGEN. How many users will have read the user's guide carefully enough to know that this means only that these compounds may have been <u>reviewed</u> by IARC or NTP but NOT that they have been indicted as tumorigenic?

Now, what can EPA or anyone else do about this elusive but real problem? A start has already been made via a data quality workshop which was initiated by the CMA (Chemical Manufacturers Association) and co-sponsored by EPA, NBS (National Bureau of Standards) and NAS (National Academy of Sciences). This resulted in a group of about 40 experienced participants from government, industry and academia reviewing criteria for data quality in four areas of information relating to properties, health and environmental effects. From this beginning, we eventually hope to see the contents of data-bases or data files identified as to the level of reliability of extracted information. The user will then at least have the ability to judge the value of the information he received.

Conclusion

The vast majority of major, chemically-oriented companies has

maintained on-going, socially responsible attitudes towards the public and the environment in relation to their products long before TSCA came into being. This, despite the hue and cry of the media and certain public factions who continue to feel that industry's concern for health and the environment must be legally mandated. Toxicity and environmental evaluations go back at least 20 years and, in some cases, forty years, using best available science and techniques available at that time. Material Safety Data Sheets, describing hazards and precautionary measures, have been produced for an equal period. Reviews of new products prior to commercialization have been mandatory in our company well before PMN rules appeared.

Laws and regulations by their very nature place constraints and burdens on the regulated community. TSCA is no exception. Monsanto's experience with sections 5,8 and 10 of TSCA has, however, indicated that in addition to the burdens imposed by the mandate, there are also tangible benefits. Such benefits help offset some of the burdens and satisfy the intent of Congress as indicated in Section 2(c) of TSCA. "It is the intent of Congress that the Administrator shall carry out this Act in a reasonable and prudent manner, and that the Administrator shall consider the environmental, economic and social impact of any action the Administrator takes or proposes to take under this Act."

The challenge facing EPA, industry and the public interest groups is to design and implement information management rules and systems that satisfy both the needs mandated by TSCA and the congressional intent on economic impact. To quote Monsanto's Vice Chairman, Dr. Louis Fernandez, from a recent speech to the National Association of Manufacturers, "it's clear that industry is committed to and capable of achieving our nation's environmental goals. We hope the regulatory agencies have come to recognize this and that we can work together to shape effective and reasonable regulations in the future".

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Impact on Corporate Structure and Procedures

DAN R. HARLOW

Diamond Shamrock Corp., Washington, DC 20006

Corporations have responded to the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) by traditional means such as added personnel and facilities as well as by new and innovative initiatives such as new management functions, new expertise in toxicology, and new computerized information systems. The size of a corporation as measured by annual sales is the most important determiner of how an organization responds to TSCA's new demands; large corporations generally add new personnel and facilities while smaller corporations tend to add TSCA requirements to existing jobs. None of these responses can be ascribed to TSCA alone since corporations are responding to a myriad of environmental/health laws with similar demands.

The Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) was signed into law in late 1976. It was a bitterly-debated piece of legislation; it arose at the height of the combined environmental concern and "cancerphobia" fears distinctive of that time. In order to understand how corporations have responded to TSCA, it is important to recall the situation at that time in the knowledge of carcinogenesis, in the environmental movement, in the political scene and, finally, in the corporations themselves.

The author feels it his responsibility at this point to apprise the reader of the fact that there is little "hard" data on corporate responses to TSCA, especially at the management level. Hence, this paper has taken the role of an overview and qualitative look at corporate responses to TSCA rather than a quantitative document based on estimated numbers of personnel added and other costs of complying with TSCA. Such "hard" data specific aspects of approaches on various TSCA such as pre-manufacturing notification and inventory have been attempted with some successes and some failures. At this overview level,

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the ability to ascribe particular responses entirely to TSCA or apportion that part of the response due to TSCA alone is difficult if not impossible. To the extent that this results in an anecdotal and personal approach to the impacts of TSCA with no cited references, the author apologizes for this shortcoming.

The History

The Toxic Substances Control Act was a combined product of the environmental movement and the cancer fears distinctive of Much of the health emphasis of the Act fell on that era. Huge resources were allocated to "conquer cancer", cancer. especially through federally-funded programs such as the National Institutes of Health. (By the mid-1970's the National Cancer Institute, one of eleven institutes, had risen to claim more than half of the entire NIH budget and have the only politically-appointed institute director.) President Nixon announced that if we could go to the moon, we could certainly conquer cancer, and do it within seven years! The prevalent models for cancer etiology in the early 1970's were the virus model and the chemotherapy approach, both of which had lost the promise of providing the overall answer to carcinogenesis. Hence, as the chemical modification of DNA model gathered momentum, it became attractive to the National Cancer Institute as its new hope for the answer. After it was stated in the early 1970's that 60%-90% of all cancers are environmentally induced, the stage was set for chemicals and environment as the issues of focus. We still don't know the etiology of cancer--we do know that some specific stimuli such as some viruses, certain kinds of radiation and specific chemical stimuli can cause a variety of different malignant diseases under certain conditions perhaps by activating to oncogenes found in normal cells.

As early as the 1930's, acute toxicology testing was recognized as a necessity for companies dealing with substances which might present acute health hazards. Indeed, industry became a leader in building the field of acute toxicology. With cancer, however, science itself was reticent in accepting The Millers of the University of Wisconsin, chronic testing. pioneers in chronic testing, recently stated that in the 1940's when they began chronic testing in their laboratories that they were looked upon with suspicion and some disdain even by toxicologists (who were then involved only in acute testing) to say nothing of the lack of regard expressed by other scientists. The often-repeated statement that most cancers are due to environmental stimuli (environmental was originally intended and recently emphasized to include such factors as diet, smoking, lifestyle, stress, etc.) capped the cancer fear and sent us headlong into a massive "search and destroy" mission for environmental carcinogens. Particularly suspected among environmental stimuli were manufactured chemicals. This is

largely true today, although recently initiated cancer studies are focusing on diet and lifestyle factors which will likely change the emphasis of "search and destroy" missions in the future.

In the change of emphasis from acute to chronic effects many scientists were unprepared to deal with the new concerns. When the full force of the cancer fear and targeting of manufactured chemicals hit, the science of chronic testing and much of the chemical industry were not well prepared. Public concern was expressed through a variety of laws including the Toxic Substances Control Act. The industry responded to the challenge in a variety of ways according to company unique characteristics. Those companies which had strong acute testing programs were better prepared to deal with demands for chronic testing than those which had less active acute programs. Some companies were aware of the growing need for chronic testing and were on the leading edge of its development while others were less aware. Those companies which had dealt with occupational hazards to highly toxic, acute or even fire and safety hazards were more likely to be monitoring workplace concentrations of various substances and had industrial hygiene programs in place; those that did not deal with such hazards did not.

The science of chronic testing was not well-formed in the years just preceding the implementation of TSCA and even today is undergoing modifications and re-evaluation. For instance, at the time of TSCA implementation, the National Cancer Institute bioassay was considered the "state of the art" for cancer testing, although the NCI itself considered it only a screening This bioassay procedure, based on MTD (maximum mechanism. tolerated dose) lifetime exposure to rodents, has undergone modifications and criticisms to the extent that many of the bioassays done in the early 1970's are no longer considered reliable. In addition, new modes of testing have arisen since TSCA's debut, making the job of chronic health testing a "moving target." These changes are not decreasing with time; in fact, there have been demands to develop new, faster and less expensive testing methods for carcinogens. Similar changes and pressures have been seen in environmental testing which, in general, is even less well-defined than carcinogen testing.

At the same time that this increased awareness to environmental carcinogens arose, the environmental movement was in full bloom. Since its established political goals were quite consistent with environmental carcinogen fears, the two were quite complementary. The history and development of the environmental movement are a fascinating and complex story in itself; however, it is not an appropriate subject for this paper. Let it suffice to say that it was the combination of the cancer fears and the environmental movement that gave the political strength to pass TSCA into law. Thus, at the time of implementation of TSCA, companies exhibited a wide variety of sophistication and understanding of what TSCA would demand from them, and the science of carcinogen and environmental testing were in the development stage. What kinds of responses have been generated from these pressures? I will try in the following pages to characterize the responses of some companies. One must remember that we cannot at this time write the requiem for how companies have responded to TSCA since corporations are still responding to the on-going implementation of TSCA.

The Response

The institutional resources which a business enterprise can devote to the pressures and demands of TSCA generally fall within five large categories; a variety of other internal activities, and external activities.

- Personnel new staff support functions added
- Testing Facilities new testing facilities added
- <u>Recordkeeping and Surveillance Programs</u> computerized or non-computerized, new computer software programs or manual recordkeeping procedures
- Research and Development new product development
- Compliance Burdens impacts of "bans" under TSCA
- Other Internal Activities
- External Activities

These additional personnel, facilities, programs and other expenses, of course, exist in the corporate structure as added costs of doing business and are accounted for in the cost to the consumer of the business enterprise's products and services.

Personnel. More than any other area, we are often asked: "How many people has your corporation added due to TSCA?" Ι don't know of anyone who has a concise answer to this question. Complicating the situation is the fact that the 1960's and 1970's saw a number of environmental and health laws go into effect: the Clean Air Act, Clean Water Act, Occupational Safety and Health Act, Safe Drinking Water Act, Federal Water Pollution Control Act, TSCA, Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act, Hazardous Materials Transportation Act, Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act, Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, and Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act, to mention the major ones. This mixture of acts, with some similarities of purpose, developing within a time span of 10-15 years, has made a variety of similar demands. It is not easy at this point to attribute the addition of staff support personnel to an individual law such as TSCA. The same observation is applicable to all corporate resources which have felt the effects of TSCA; however, in order to prevent repetition it will not be restated in the following pages.

- TSCA has resulted in increased staff support in five areas:
- (1) Legal interpretation of the law
- (2) $\frac{\text{Technical}}{\text{law}}$ understanding of technical aspects of the
- (3) <u>Engineering</u> knowledge of control procedures for manufacturing processes, etc.
- (4) <u>Toxicology/Testing</u> toxicology/testing advisors to management and for testing requirements
- (5) Management new management functions for TSCA

(1) Legal. It is common for large companies to have the TSCA responsibility assigned to a specific staff attorney or attorneys. This may be a full-time job in the largest companies or may be a part-time function. In smaller companies it is certain to be a part-time function among the many jobs of the few attorneys. In even smaller companies, who may not have a legal staff at all, there may be an outside counsel involved, if there is any legal function at all. These small firms may depend on trade association legal support and/or a non-attorney in the company with a basic knowledge of the law.

Rather than discuss a group of specific corporations and their responses to TSCA (which vary greatly depending on their individual structures, product mixes, sizes, number of employees, etc.), a range of corporations from small to large based on annual chemical sales was selected as examples. This range, as you will see, has a significant impact on how they have responded to TSCA. (Very large=\$5 billion annual chemical sales; large=\$1.5 billion; medium=\$650 million; small=\$20-50 million.) It has been suggested that an additional category--"extremely small=\$1-10 million"--be added. It was found that these are often one or two manager operations and, thus, all of the TSCA burden falls on the one or two managers at the expense of their other vital duties. It should therefore be noted that this group of companies was deleted from the following comparison charts only because the entry would be repetitive; that is, the one or two managers must pick up the added burdens. It can be persuasively argued that these "extremely small companies" have indeed experienced the greatest impact from TSCA and find their businesses imperiled by its added burdens. The reader is asked to mentally add the "extremely small" company and its burden on its few managers to each comparison chart.

- Firm 2 Large. One attorney assigned responsibility; at times full-time, now part-time. General counsel office support as needed.

- Firm 3 Medium. Part-time basis for two in-house attorneys.
- Firm 4 Small. No in-house attorney, Research Director handles TSCA matters.

(2) Technical. Additional technical support in companies other than testing personnel will arise from the need for additional recordkeeping, such as the annual reports and TSCA inventory (§§8(a) and (b)), records of significant adverse reactions to health or environment (§8(c)), records of applicable health and safety studies (§8(d)), and notices of substantial risk to health or environment (\$8(e)). In larger companies, chemical technical personnel may work with computer personnel to put the information into computerized recordkeeping. In smaller companies, there may or may not be computerized services; in the small companies there will not be computerized recordkeeping but will be some form of manual records generally kept by technical personnel.

In addition to direct burdens of recordkeeping which fall on technical and technical management personnel, another burden of major significance is the interpretation and determination of potential impacts of TSCA on a corporation. Due to the highly complex, technical nature of TSCA, the major job of interpretation and impact analysis falls upon technical, not legal, experts. This burden is essentially universal, impacting all companies regardless of size and other characteristics. The primary significance here is that either these TSCA duties detract from the other technical duties (in smaller companies even research and development activities) or result in new technical expertise being added to existing staff.

- Firm 1 Very Large. One full-time technical person at corporate level, five part-time at operating companies. About five other staff personnel in various activities.
- Firm 2 Large. One technical persons in corporate headquarters; about 15 people part-time in divisions of the company.
- Firm 3 Medium. One technical person in headquarters, four to five people in other parts of the company.
- Firm 4 Small. Research Director maintains records.

(3) Engineering. Environmental engineering staffs have had to respond to the many environmental laws as detailed earlier. TSCA has had a minimal additional impact here since the primary focus of TSCA is information and testing. Engineers often participate in reporting, such as \$8(e), in larger companies with engineering staffs. In the smaller companies without such staffs, engineering consultants provide the service or the technical staff performs the function.

Firm	1 -	Very Large. In-house engineering staff	provides
		service on an as-needed basis.	
Firm 3	2 –	Large. In-house engineering staff	provides
		service on an as-needed basis.	
Firm 3	3 -	Medium. In-house engineering staff	provides
		services on an as-needed basis.	
Firm -	4 -	Small. At this point, engineering is not	t needed.

(4) Toxicology/Testing. Perhaps the greatest variety in response to TSCA is in the testing area. The variety generally revolves around the question of in-house testing facilities versus external testing facilities. Among the largest companies with massive testing facilities, a large amount of in-house testing can be expected, but even in these cases the demand for testing in general (not just TSCA) has overloaded the system. Hence, much testing is done outside the companies' facilities and added personnel to monitor and assure the quality of outside testing can be attributed to other demands as well as TSCA. The general demand for ability to analyze toxicological data has resulted in the employment of toxicologists in the large companies who, in addition to their specific duties in testing, also advise management and operating units on various aspects of TSCA and other laws. For instance, they will likely be involved in substantial risk determinations under §8(e). Smaller companies do not employ toxicologists or other testing personnel but contract outside testing and toxicology consultants.

- Firm 1 Very Large. Toxicology staff of 25 provides advice on all aspects of toxicology including TSCA.
- Firm 2 Large. Two toxicologists full-time and one part-time at corporate level for TSCA.
- Firm 3 Medium. Toxicology testing and expertise outside.
- Firm 4 Small. Toxicology testing and expertise outside.

(5) New Management Functions. The infra-structure of support described above to provide TSCA-required services is all within the staff functions of the specific companies. As a result of the uniqueness of corporations, staff personnel exist in a wide variety of locations: at one extreme, they may be a centralized corporate staff department with line highly authority to operating units; on the other extreme, they may be detailed out to the operating units themselves reporting to the operating unit managers. There is no pure and simple company example for each of these two extremes; companies are mixtures of the two with a preponderance in the large companies of a corporate staff reporting to the top corporate managers with no line authority to operating units. In smaller companies, the reporting is directly to the corporate officers themselves.

In large companies there has generally been the emergence of a new corporate staff department of environment and health with a corporate level vice president (either a staff vice president or vice president/corporate officer). This job is generally a relatively new one and is often the focus point for staff infra-structure not only for TSCA but for all the environmental, safety, industrial hygiene and medical affairs. Again, how corporations structure this reporting varies with individual companies. In some larger companies, the TSCA-related requirements sufficient are to justify the existence of a "TSCA Co-ordinator" or "Director of TSCA Regulation," etc. who reports to the vice president. This person's responsibility is to focus TSCA matters corporate-wide; advise the operating units on TSCA matters which affect them; report the results and progress in TSCA matters to the vice president who in turn reports to the top corporate officers. In smaller companies, the management of TSCA is added to the other business functions of the few corporate managers.

- Firm 1 Very Large. Senior vice president (member of board) heads all health and environment staff. Full-time TSCA coordinator at corporate level, part-time Washington office support.
- Firm 2 Large. Staff vice president manages health, environmental and safety, including TSCA.
- Firm 3 Medium. Vice president, environmental health and safety.
- Firm 4 Small. Director of Government Affairs function added to existing Research Director.

<u>Testing Facilities</u>. As mentioned, there is wide variation among companies as to in-house testing capacities. Some companies, even large ones, rely entirely on contracted outside testing for a variety of reasons; e.g., overhead management costs, acceptance of results by the government and the public, etc. Smaller companies have used outside contractors for testing where required. There is no doubt that TSCA is requiring additional testing--the only question is where it is being done.

- Firm 1 Very Large. Very large in-house testing facilities, about 50% TSCA-related in-house, about 50% contracted out.
- Firm 2 Large. Limited facilities for in-house toxicology testing; all TSCA-related testing contracted out.
- Firm 3 Medium. In-house testing facilities for chemical and physical properties, not toxicology.
- Firm 4 Small. In-house testing facilities for chemical and physical properties, not toxicology.

<u>Recordkeeping and Surveillance Programs</u>. As with testing, the degree of sophistication varies greatly among companies. A small company with a few products and only a few employees cannot justify a sophisticated computer soft-ware program while a large company would be foolish to try to keep such records manually.

In large companies with computerized capability, if operating units vary considerably in the kinds of materials used, TSCA information may be kept on a unit basis and not at a large central corporate facility. However, there are several systems designed for central corporate use which bring together the entire breadth of the corporate activities for TSCA, industrial hygiene, environmental monitoring, etc. For example, Diamond Shamrock Corporation has developed a patented soft-ware system for sale trademarked "COHESS[®]" (Computerized Occupational Health/Environmental Surveillance System). COHESS brings together basis on а corporate-wide three separate modules--people, things--for centralized places and а recordkeeping function. The things module is a list of all chemical substances handled in the company; places is a grid network system to allow identification of any point in any plant site or facility; and finally the largest module is people. The people module collects health incidents for each employee (clinic visits, health insurance claims, workmen's compensation, incidents, accident/safety medical absence and death certificates) and employee health evaluations for each (pre-employment physical exams, annual physical exams, periodic exams, special evaluations and personal sampling in the workplace). The three modules are interconnected. For example, the people file contains the grid numbers (as used in the places module) of the specific workplace for each employee. In the things module, which can be the TSCA inventory, each chemical substance is listed with the grid numbers from the places module where that particular chemical is used. Also included in the things file for each chemical are amounts and modes of environmental exposure and amount of human exposure. As one can see, there are many ways to use such a centralized computer If, for instance, a particular employee shows symptoms, file. the COHESS file can tell what his grid location is and from that determine the chemicals he or she is exposed to. In the reverse, if the company suddenly discovers or is told that a particular chemical substance is a health hazard, the COHESS system can display the points in all the facilities where that substance is used and identify all employees working in those areas. These relatively simple maneuvers can be carried out in More complex minimum time with a system such as COHESS. epidemiological retrospective studies and long-term environmental studies can also be performed using this system since it accumulates information throughout the time it is in use.

Other companies have developed various types of computerized systems to achieve similar objectives. It should be pointed out here that the COHESS project was started in Diamond Shamrock in 1973, three years before TSCA became law. Thus, it is difficult to say that it was developed in response to TSCA. It does, however, respond to many of the recordkeeping requirements in TSCA.

Companies without computer capability and smaller companies generally must stay with manual recordkeeping, at least for the present time. Several years ago, some consultants offered to "pool" small companies until size was sufficient to make computerization possible. Potential customers rejected this option out of fear of losing trade secret information on mixtures and processes.

- Firm 1 Very Large. Very complex centralized computerized system including medical records, industrial hygiene, environmental effects. toxicology and materials (TSCA inventory). Firm 2 - Large. Centralized corporate-wide computerized system for workers, workplace and employees. Firm 3 -Medium. Computerized records kept on substances
- (TSCA inventory) and on industrial hygiene.

Firm 4 - Small. Manual records kept.

<u>Research and Development</u>. Among the most discussed impacts of TSCA on companies is the impact on innovation. With PMN review, companies have been required to factor in environmental and health concerns very early in the product development cycle; that is, at the research and development stage. A potential product can be dropped due to negative environmental or health information at various stages, starting at the preliminary review of existing knowledge of the potential product. As the product moves further and further along the process, all existing knowledge about the material must be gathered and evaluated until the point of decision on commercialization, when there may be a decision to test or not test, depending on what is known about the substance.

The research and development departments draw on all other personnel and testing capabilities, as discussed above, in achieving this review. Research and development personnel are made aware of the impacts of TSCA in their routine functions. As it is now a part of the R&D cycle, it would be very difficult to assign a specific burden on personnel and facilities since it reaches into various parts of existing companies as described above. In general it is believed that TSCA has resulted in a slow down in developing new chemicals.

<u>Compliance Burdens</u>. Under §6 of TSCA, the banning of particular chemical substances has had a significant impact on companies who manufacture those substances. For example, the banning of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) has had a sizeable impact on the manufacturers of these products. A similar situation occurred with banning of chlorofluorocarbons in certain less critical uses. The "downstream effects", that is, the economic effects on users of these substances has also been substantial since more expensive and/or less effective substitutes must be used. The effects of such banning in the chemical specialties markets has been striking with existing companies being severly damaged and new companies being created. In some cases such as the PCB issue, the economic impacts went far beyond the chemical industry and its user industries to the utility industry where the final economic impact will be borne by the residential electric ratepayer and consumers of goods produced by electricity.

As §6 actions continue, such "cascade effects" as the PCB situation will be seen; the first stages impacted will be the manufacturer whose product line will be modified. The next level of effect will be the user industries who are the primary consumers; the final economic impact will fall on the consumer of the product or service.

Other Internal Activities. Under \$8(e) of TSCA a company must report "substantial risks to health or environment" to EPA. The guidance published for \$8(e) committees exist in most large companies and there is a regular receipt by EPA of \$8(e)notices. As other sections of the Act are being implemented, companies will institute internal review committees to handle these particular requirements.

The chemical industry responds to External Activities. TSCA through a variety of activities external to the individual corporation or company. Such organizations did not arise as a result directly of TSCA but do respond to some of TSCA's Industry requirements. For example, the CIIT (Chemical Institute of Toxicology) carries on testing of various chemical substances for the chemical industry, thus preventing duplicative testing by each manufacturer or user. In addition, its separate identity from the chemical industry increases the acceptability of its test results.

The American Industrial Health Council (AIHC) was created in 1977 to address generic chronic health issues and has interests in chronic health testing such as may be used in TSCA \$4 in a general sense. In addition to these two specific organizations, the wide range of trade associations serving particular industry segments have involved themselves with various aspects of TSCA.

The impact on corporations of these external activities is the demand upon corporations for employee time to work with the organizations. This so called "sweat equity" or contribution of time of key corporation employees including officers and CEOs (Chief Executive Officers) imposes a significant burden on corporations.

Summary

The chemical industry has responded to the demand presented by TSCA in differing ways. Additional resources have been added in (1) personnel, (2) testing facilities, and (3) recordkeeping/surveillance systems. Other effects have been increased testing, impacts of banned substances and a variety of new or increased internal and external activities.

It is difficult to isolate concise numbers of personnel added since very few are employed full-time for TSCA; they have other duties which flow, directly or indirectly, from related health/environmental/occupational health laws. One area of staff support on which TSCA may have had a sizeable quantitative impact is in toxicologists, who appear to have increased in numbers on corporate payrolls with the implementation of TSCA. Although the volume of testing has increased as a result of TSCA requirements, many of the other related acts require testing. Since much of the testing even prior to TSCA was done outside company testing facilities, the increase in testing volume is to be seen in outside testing facilities rather than in company in-house facilities. New management functions are at least partially due to TSCA. Recordkeeping and surveillance systems development has received a boost from TSCA. A variety of systems ranging from simple, manual to complex, centralized corporate computerized systems exist. Further pressure for such systems may increase as TSCA is implemented.

In general, the larger corporations respond to TSCA demands much as they would to any other demand presented to them. There have been additional resources added; the additional costs will be expressed in the cost of products and services provided by the corporation. With smaller companies, the general result has been to add the TSCA burdens to existing personnel, particularly in technical/research and development functions. The final result in these smaller companies may be less innovation and productivity. In the smallest companies, the burdens have fallen on the few managers whose time in general management functions is reduced. Less productivity may be the result here.

So far as newly created corporate responses, the new management functions (health and environmental Vice Presidents) and additional toxicology expertise are most apparent.

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132

Confidentiality of Chemical Identities

JAMES T. O'REILLY

Procter & Gamble Company, Cincinnati, OH 45202

The chemical industry's concern for confidentiality of innovative chemical products is a world-wide problem, with a variety of responses by governments, interest groups and companies. The EEC system poses the most immediate confidentiality loss potential. A proposal is made for a system which excludes certain identifiable confidential data from the disclosure provisions of the EINECS inventory.

One day in February 1981, two U.S. government food and drug inspectors arrived in Shanghai, China, to conduct an inspection of the Peoples' Fourth Pharmaceutical Works, an enterprise owned by the Chinese government. It seems that even the traditionally secretive Chinese were well aware of a distinctly American phenomenon. When the U.S. FDA inspectors started to ask questions, the factory manager announced that the Fourth Pharmaceutical Works was greatly concerned about the disclosure of their trade secret information to drug makers in other countries, because of the U.S. Freedom of Information It's funny how word of this peculiar American pattern of Act: disclosing private confidential data can create a world full of skeptics, wondering if the U.S. government can ever keep a commercial secret . . . but it's frankly not funny that our government's reputation for leaking innovative technology information has spread so far and so wide as to reach Shanghai.

This paper offers a perspective on confidential chemical information, including the identities of existing and new chemical substances, which are valuable pieces of knowledge treated by their owners as confidential business information. The secrets that I will discuss are in three essentially separable catgories -- formulation secrets, including the identity of a new special chemical entity like a photographic film chemical; technology secrets, including the methods and

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machinery involved in assembling an efficient manufacturing system, and business secrets, like a marketing plan for a new adhesive or the timing of an introduction for a new consumer cleaning prodct. These formulation, technology and business secrets can be treated as typical confidential business information which government agencies obtain, for whatever their purpose, from time to time.

Confidentiality is really not the opposite of public dissemination. Confidential status can have all shades of seriousness; public dissemination has only one. Something can be confidential and vigorously defended, or merely confidential as a matter of common practice. But once the secret is out the bird is on the wing, the arrow is fired, the secret is gone forever. So programs and options for confidential treatment are considered in light of the knowledge that loss of confidential status is permanent. We are "playing for keeps" when we debate whether information should be disclosed, for disclosure alters the existing expectation forever.

That concept of expectation is easy to understand. As a bench chemist working with catalysts, you may have an expectation that you will find the answer to the production dilemma. You also expect to be paid for it in some way. If your grant expires or your company closes before you find the solution, your expectation is defeated. In the same way, our rewards system is designed to allow you to recoup a reasonable license fee from those who want to use your invention, through patent licenses if it is patentable and through trade secret licenses if it is not. You expect to use information to gain academic recognition or peer rewards or financial rewards or some combination of all three. Information puts your work into the form from which its expectation of rewards will flow. You should safeguard the information; you will need it to get the rewards. If you discard the safeguards and that discovery is public, then that novel technology returns no rewards, and the disclosed secret will have filled none of the expectations.

Assume that the bench chemist in the Midwest or Southwest develops a complex new molecule for some use like paint adhesion, plastics color enhancement, or any one of thousands of worthwhile uses. The information can be audited by the government if the program of development is subject to some of the Environmental Protection Agency or Food and Drug Administration regulations governing testing, or if the laboratories where the study is underway have some obligation to permit inspection of their methods as a background for their drug or pesticide studies, for example.

The chemical secret may be in the chemist's changes to the molecule, her process development efforts, or her new and successful application of an old technology. The information which records the success is secret; a patent filing would be possible but may not be economically feasible. At this point, the expectation is that the secret will remain secret. The expectation is normally fulfilled; we as consumers benefit from instant film in brighter colors, or plastics which are less likely to break. Historically, the innovator has normally obtained a reward.

But the chemical world faces a kind of cultural revolution. This is a rapidly-growing political movement to devalue innovative confidential data. The movement would overthrow the chemist's expectation of value, in the name of the social scientist's view of appropriate government interaction with governmental constituencies. Assume that a federal agency holds a copy of the confidential data. The federal government disclosure of that secret would take away the private person's expectation in one of three ways. First, the Freedom of Information Act limits the owner's ability to protect that secret if another person demands disclosure. Second, the possessing agency has many incentives to disclose that private business data under the Freedom of Information Act and no real legal disincentives. And third, the Toxic Substances Control Act and the Clean Air Act, among others, are current federal laws which mandate certain disclosures and force the agencies to make disclosure of what had always been private information before.

Until chemists become more aware of their information problem, chemists will be far behind the social science architects of policies. On openness, protections of technology which chemists enjoy today were won by legislative battles and by hard-fought cases under trade secret law which eventually came to favor the owner. Chemists have to be willing to get into the political arena and fight for their expectations of confidentiality, or else be willing to accept the difficulties of protection which the law now imposes upon innovators in our society.

I mentioned three factors in federal law which impact on this disclosure problem. The first is that the Freedom of Information Act makes it difficult to withhold information. Τt does this both by an uncertain standard of confidentiality, and by the omission of the procedural protection which comes with all other kinds of adjudicative decisions by federal agencies. The courts rewrote the Freedom of Information Act's original intent in the 1974 National Parks v. Morton decision. Since that time, each submission to an agency has been vulnerable to disclosure if the owner fails to carry a rather difficult burden of proof: That disclosure would cause substantial harm to competitive position at the time the disclosure is made. Assume that the owner of a secret catalyst had a market share of 10 in specialty fatty acids for rubber production, and filed the catalyst information with the EPA on April 1, 1982. When the request for disclosure comes in November 1983, what will the firm's market position be then, and how much would this

disclosure hurt that position? It is troubling me to have to prove that kind of case. Procedurally, the firm is in a quite uncomfortable position if it does not get notice of the disclosure--for the law does not require notice, and agencies vary. While FDA refuses advance notice, EPA often allows notice to be given. The owner also loses if it does not have a chance to put that information rapidly into the record for full consideration by the agency or the courts. The procedures are rapid; they stress quick decisions. Many chemical firms concerned with TSCA problems are concerned about the degree to which courts can become involved in fleshing out the reasons for the withholding.

The second reality for the chemist who studies federal disclosure policy is that many incentives favor disclosure and few favor withholding. A \$25,000 a year employee who discloses chemical process data to a competitor in Ohio can get a year in jail and a tremendous fine, in addition to damages against the recipient firm which collaborates with the disloyalty. \$25,000 a year federal official who discloses the same information to the same competitor has helped his or her career in five respects. First, the competitor is pleased and will remember the cooperation. Second, the public openness incentives are fostered and the performance ratings will benefit, for those officials whose bonus can be based on avoiding conflicts and speeding the process of disclosures. Third, the employee will face no criminal prosecution since enforcement of the Trade Secrets Act was effectively suspended by the Justice Department in 1979 and no prosecutions have occurred under it. Fourth, the individual employee has no liability for job-related actions and the agency is exempt from liability for intentional torts like this disclosure. And finally, even if the agency cared to rebuke the disclosing person, discipline is likely to consist of a written reprimand in the file, as prescribed by such manuals as the EPA TSCA security manual, and the employee can file grievances or Privacy Act suits to erase or block even that tiny sanction. While the former employee chemist is making license plates or making restitution, the current and future government employee emerged from the identical set of facts virtually unscathed. So incentives toward disclosure are more rewarding than any incentive to withhold.

The final element of this federal impact on confidentiality is that certain laws require certain things to be made public. The Toxic Substances Control Act has several useful confidentiality provisions in §14, but it adversely affects confidentiality when it prohibits the EPA withholding of health and safety "studies." That term is not well defined at all. There are conflicting views about which items are "studies." From a careful reexamination of the law, I feel that identity can be confidential and need not be part of a study, if the chemical name has been excised from study reports. Separately, emission data cannot be withheld under the Clean Air Act; but is "emission data" specific processes within a factory, or complex formulations, or what? No clear definition of what is <u>not</u> emission data can be found.

Beyond these three factors in federal law, the chemical innovator will also face a myriad of state and local rules about disclosure which seem to proliferate in length, in inverse proportion to the logical basis.

And literally beyond these Washington concerns is the European inventory concern, a matter which many eminent minds in the chemical regulatory field are pondering. A chemical existing in the United States, identified only generically in the U.S. EPA inventory, and if on the EEC market by September 18, 1981, must be reported in terms of its precise identity to the proper authorities in the member state(s) where manufactured or imported for inclusion in the European Inventory of Existing Chemical Substances (EINECS). As the reporting instructions "I. Introduction" Page 7, indicate, "however, no substance identity will be considered confidential in any way." The chemical which has not been manufactured, is not on the U.S. EPA inventory, and which remains a trade secret in the possession of its developer, is placed in jeopardy when commercialized in Europe. Before placing it on the European market, the U.S. manufacturer representative in one or more of the member states of the European Economic Community must submit a pre-marketing notification to the authorities in the member state(s) of choice. No more than three years of protection is available, and that three year limit is contingent upon the material's being classified as not dangerous.

A conflict clearly exists between permanent confidentiality, available under the system of U.S. laws, and the eventual disclosure of identities of specialized chemical substances which had heretofore been undisclosed, but which are now affected by EINECS or by EEC's premarketing notification system. The rules are different; the assumptions regarding disclosure are different. Perhaps the best solution a lawyer could offer is that member states should be willing to adjudicate individual cases of specific confidentiality needs. Inventories of existing substances are rules, adopted prospectively to announce to the world both the existence of a material and its regulatory status. Those rules can operate to accommodate both public and private needs.

We have a U.S. sytem which could satisfactorily resolve the conflict. I propose that we take the approach of permitting confidentiality claims for the identity of an existing substance, if they can be justified to the national authority, such as a ministry of the environment, which will consider whether confidentiality reasons are sufficient to merit excepting that item from inventory requirements. The national authority which is processing the information for EINECS could refuse the claim, in which case the firm must either allow for disclosure or use available remedies to appeal -- or not use the material within the EEC in order to preserve confidential status elsewhere. Or the national authority could accept confidentiality, and could insist that it be told immediately upon public disclosure (or patent issuance disclosure) of the material's existence.

The system is modeled on the U.S. Food and Drug Administration cosmetic trade secrecy system. That system predates the enactment of TSCA, but it offers a relevant benchmark for protection of confidentiality. The EPA and other agencies can lawfully permit just and equitable exceptions and exemptions from its rules on a basis of specific facts. Under FDA's system, all cosmetics must disclose ingredients on their labels, except those which have used the FDA procedure to win a letter acknowledging the specific ingredient's specific confidential status. A roughly analogous situation to the inventory occurred in 1958 when Congress adopted the Food Additive Amendments and did not wish to have all existing substances reexamined; Congress allowed for prior specific sanction letters by FDA to excuse the maker of the additive from submission of a food additive petition. It would be best for the EEC to offer the same form of special letter determinations to submitters of confidential data. Then the submitter who wanted to comply, but would lose its U.S. and other non-EEC confidential status through disclosure, would be covered. Those who felt there was a legitimate reason for nondisclosure could ask the agency for official approbation for them to do so.

The flaws in the FDA's systems have been twofold. First, the cosmetic secrets system has not given adequate consideration to private statements showing confidential status. Second, the central agency staff must know how many exceptions have been allowed, to whom and for what. If the procedure is unfair or if exceptions cannot be catalogued, then the agency cannot manage its workload and the submitter cannot be adequately listened to. But these problems can be worked out within the EEC structure, and chemists familiar with the EEC inventory process should aid in the letter-exceptions process.

The flaws in the U.S. system, particularly in the Freedom of Information Act, are not easy to fix. Legislation now pending in Congress will resolve the procedural flaws. It will, for the first time in eight years, protect academic research, which has not been protected by the law since government has not considered it "commercial." Changes to specific laws like the Pesticides Act, FIFRA, have been so hard to effectuate that we see that TSCA and the other statutes will be quite difficult to reshape into any more appropriate confidential format. Perhaps administrative changes, or the new Office of Management & Budget authorities under the Paperwork Reduction Act, will provide the basis for legal change.

These debates about product identity are separate from the debates about technology secrets and business secrets. It is often quite difficult to convince a federal agency that a piece of business information will do harm if disclosed. The EPA has been one of the most enterprising and accomodating when the details of specific disclosure consequences have been explained. But where a prodisclosure policy intervenes rather than the consideration of a specific set of facts, that policy is often flawed by a factual or legal problem. The court decisions in several recent cases indicate that a well-grounded confidentiality protection program can succeed. Technology can be protected, but more work needs to be done. Business secrets need to be connected to competitive marketplace disadvantages, as the current standard requires, and that can be quite complex as a matter of proof.

The future problems with confidentiality of chemical industry innovation will be significantly different from problems experienced in the past. At one time, the laws of another country dealing with trade secrets were only of interest to the special breed of corporate lawyers who prosecuted multi-national conspiracies to steal secrets through industrial espionage. Today, by constrast, the planners of multi-national enterprises must pay attention to the requirements of other countries for disclosure. Where a Pennsylvania company may wish to protect its identifiable new chemical from disclosure in Belgian markets, the Belgian firm making the current chemical for a new use may be concerned about sending it into Pennsylvania because of the uncertainties about commercial data protection of that new application or new use, as a matter of U.S. governmental disclosure policies.

My predictions would be for legislated changes, though legislation takes more effort, more money and more coordination than most of the alternative but weaker options. The legislative changes will define the interests to be protected and the ones that will not be protected. It will require some information to be disclosed where there is a real public interest, one which overrides the private interests at stake. On the European front, there will be some accommodation of the conflicts, perhaps through an adjudicative mechanism for specific products that does not depend on the central listing device of the Sixth Amendment inventory.

The missing variable in these predictions is time. Until there is a change in the European inventory provisions there will be an exposure of the confidential identities immediately upon publication (expected in 1984 or 1985) for existing

chemicals. For non-dangerous new chemicals this disclosure will occur three years after Notification to the Member State Competent Authorities. This change in the Inventory provisions needs to be worked on promptly so that the U.S. and European Confidentiality Provisions can be compatible. Freedom of Information Act reforms are being worked on in the Congress, but reform is slow and always uncertain. The EPA has operated under the same set of confidential information rules for six years now, and the time for reexamination of its regulatory requirements for information submitters is coming due. The increase in EPA Premanufacture Filings, year by year, increases the amount of confidential business information that chemical firms are sharing with the Government and about which protective provisions will become increasingly important.

Meanwhile, chemical innovation goes on. Expectations are set, confidences shared, submissions to Government made, and work proceeds normally with research and development. A new social policy favoring disclosure may be in the works, while somewhere in China a factory manager is wondering what mysterious measures the Western Countries will come up with next. This worldwide concern will be with us for years to come.

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140

Impact on the Reactive Polymer Industry

STANLEY C. OSLOSKY and LAWRENCE W. KELLER

PPG Industries, Inc., Springdale, PA 15144

This paper discusses the impacts that the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) has had on the reactive polymer industry. Characterized by the need for timely introduction of innovative products to satisfy a constantly changing market, this segment of the chemical industry has been affected more than any other. Five years of experience with TSCA in general and nearly two and one half vears with Premanufacture Notification requirements have produced some positive and some negative impacts, particularly at the research and development level. On the positive side, the Act has forced criteria for improved planning, opened some communication lines and strengthened others, created data bases and that can aid in research and development, generally encouraged а broadened staff perspective from the economic and technical toward a total product awareness. On the negative, certain aspects of the implementation of the Act have inhibited innovation, caused necessary duplication of information submissions, and have created general uncertainties bv inconsistencies in data treatment and the lack of a finalized policy.

The recent economic legitimacy which is given industrial concerns over the impacts of government regulations brings sharp focus to the impacts that the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) has had on innovation. Reactive polymers are a major component in many products in segments of industry that can be characterized by the need for innovative products to meet constantly changing market needs. Such products include

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coatings, plastics, inks and adhesives. The essential role of these substances in the economy is of little question. They, in some way touch nearly every part of the Gross National Product. $(\underline{1})$ Their ability to be engineered at the molecular level gives them the ability to provide enhancement, protection and low cost, lightweight alternatives to many time-honored materials. $(\underline{2})$ It is this versatility that makes them particularly subject to regulations such as TSCA.

The Center for Policy Alternatives at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, under contract to the EPA, observed that regulation may affect industry in areas such as profitability, growth, imports, exports, employment and technological innovation.(3) From the Coatings and Resins perspective, direct impacts on innovation have had a cascading effect on the other areas with the exception of direct employment costs associated with compliance.

Congress recognized the potentially detrimental effects that TSCA could have on innovation while recognizing the need to assess each new substance entering the market for potentially adverse effects. This is evidenced by the often quoted Section 2(B)(3) that says the agency's authority: "... should be exercised in such a manner as not to impede

"... should be exercised in such a manner as not to impede unduly or create unnecessary economic barriers to technology and innovation while fulfilling the primary purpose of this Act to assure that such innovation and commerce in such chemical substances and mixtures do not present an unreasonable risk of injury to health or the environment."(4)

The regulations that have been troublesome to innovative industries have been promulgated under the authority of Sections 5 and 8 of the Act. Initially, industries met promulgations under subsection 8(b) which deals with reporting and retention of information. This required submissions geared toward compilation of an inventory of chemical substances commercial in the United States. Also, since TSCA's enactment, subsection 8(e) requirements have been in effect and require reports to the Administrator of all "substantial risks". defined as adverse effects on environment and health. Тο comply with 8(e) industry has to provide avenues of employee input into the compliance process. Regulations have been in proposed form under subsections 8(a) and 8(d). If finalized, regulations promulgated in these areas would impose further informational submission requirements on certain inventoried substances.

While Section 8 requirements usually created some significant temporary impacts, Premanufacture Notificaton has had effects that require industries whose profitability is based on innovation to make some changes in their business operations, particularly at the research and development level. Aside from the Premanufacture Notification (PMN) requirements, Section 5 rules have not been used to a great extent. Nearly all of the compliance activity since July of 1979 has been geared toward meeting PMN requirements. Whether the agency's failure to use the subsections of 5 that are designed to restrict potentially harmful substances from reaching the marketplace has resulted from lack of real necessity, a failure in the Agency's risk assessment process, or an inherent non-workability in the Law itself, remains to be seen.

If industrial activity or the amount of effort and resources directed toward compliance could be measured and plotted against time, it would look something like Figure 1. From TSCA's enactment in 1976, there was a slow, gradual rise in activity, which reached a peak in the first quarter of 1978, with the first 8(b) reporting deadline. A relaxation was then experienced, a gradual rise and a second peak corresponding with the official publication of 8(b) inventory in 1979. A decline in TSCA related activity was then seen during a period when only a very onerous proposed PMN regulation guided those wishing to enter a new substance into commerce. PMN activity slowly picked up pace as a more reasonable proposal was won and the process became learned. Activity, geared toward compliance, is now most likely in the process of declining and leveling above some pre-TSCA baseline. Definitions of this baseline and quantification of the impacts have been the subject of several extensive studies(5, 6, 7) and have proven to be controversial. With compliance programs firmly established, and given the status quo of regulatory initiatives (e.g. toward requirements relaxation), a definition of some of the positive and negative components of the impacts that have caused deviations from this elusive baseline can be constructed.

Negative Components

Negative components of the impacts of TSCA can be divided into three general areas, resource diversion, testing costs and uncertainties. Positive impacts offsetting the negative can be divided into four components; resource diversification, strenthening of communication lines, improved planning and a general redirection of technology toward safer and more healthful products.³

<u>Resource Diversion</u>. First in the negative area is resource diversion or the diverting of facilities, costs and personnel from their characteristic functions toward some compliance effort. One of the reasons that quantification of impacts associated with TSCA is difficult, is that the compliance accountability has become dispersed throughout the research and development process. Initially, diversion occurred in the form of and middle management upper informational and planning sessions geared toward designing "required" compliance measures. These eventually evolved into a product information flow in which very little product information remained free from input. Effective ways of assessing production histories. compositional grouping duplicates, mapping production distributions, substantiating commerciality and filing site-specific 8(b) reports for compositions had to be devised. A retrospective information flow was established to a coordination center, usually becoming a function of newly emerging Health and Environmental Affairs Departments, and the results were a mass of 8(b) reports filed for every recently commercially valuable chemical entity, from every site of manufacture. The magnitude of the task in the polymer industry required a significant diversion of personnel and other resources through 1977 to May, 1978.

After the initial inventory reporting cutoff in May of 1978, this retrospective approach was replaced with the flow of current information. New substances, as they became commercial, had to be identified and put through a decision process as shown in Figure 2. New reports were again necessitated by the commercialization of a new substance. Since July of 1979, Section 5 Compliance has been the source of nearly all compliance activity. Input for Premanufacture Notification purposes now takes a shape similar to that previously indicated, (see Figure 2) but now incoming new product material must reach the coordinator earlier in the life of the product than at any other time in the compliance effort. This introduced a potential time delay in the commercialization process.

Where in a product's life a regulation such as TSCA is imposed becomes important in terms of resource diversion. Ideally, imposition of Premanufacture Notification after scale-up and successful line trials would necessitate filing notifications only for those products that actually become commercial. In the usually compressed Coatings and Resins lifeline, this is not always, and in fact very seldom, possible.

Because of strict definitions of commerciality, PMN initiation must occur so early to allow sufficient time for internal formalization and ninety days of EPA review that many of those going through the review process will be altered due to continuous innovation efforts to improve performance and cost. These alternatives often result in nearly structurally identical substances but ones that TSCA will define as "new". Even when these products do reach commerciality, the same research effort often offers them a very limited life span.

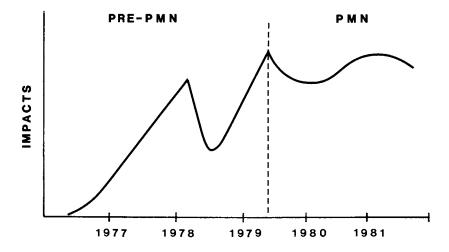


Figure 1. Perceived TSCA impacts.

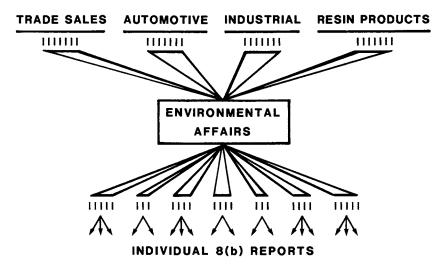


Figure 2. Original compliance information flow.

In TSCA's Impact on Society and Chemical Industry; Ingle, G.; ACS Symposium Series; American Chemical Society: Washington, DC, 1983.

When the amount of effort associated with each PMN and the amount of PMN's filed are considered, it can be seen that total diversion can become significant. Α typical Coatings manufacturer's experience during two full years of PMN compliance has shown that a synthetic chemist in the Coatings and Resins area brings an average of three substances per year into the notification process. This reduced is to approximately two when considering just substances brought to the point of actual submission. These are documentable associations, however, much of an innovative chemist's concern occurs in activity difficult to document, such as maintaining an awareness of the inventory status of all substances synthesized in a particular area, so that effective initiation decisions can be made when feedback from product development areas dictate. Documentable resource diversion, at the research level, consists of gathering and formalizing necessary data and participation in review meetings. Other levels of input, development, processing or scale up and Environmental Affairs, have similar input requirements and can add to make the diversion of personnel per Premanufacture Notification quite significant. This is before many other factors which add to this are even considered. Other considerations are time spent in activities such as: coordination and requirements consultation; formalization and record maintenance; data base maintenance and other computer related activities such as inventory and literature searches; finally, and upper management reviews of notifications before submission. In the short term, TSCA requirements divert resources at the research and development level toward compliance efforts and away from innovation.

Chemical manufacturers submitted 1,031 Premanufacture Notifications in 1980 and 1981. In the same time period, they submitted 290 notifications of commencement of commercial manufacture. In other words, only 28% of the substances for which Premanufacturing notices were filed in the past two years Specifically, for the of compliance have become commercial. reactive polymer segment, about 29% of the reported substances have become commercial. These percentages indicate that much of what has constituted the impacts of TSCA has been "protective" filing of notifications. The length and complexity of the process mandated by TSCA has led to unnecessary resource diversion. A more liberal definition of what constitutes a commercial event could have significantly increased the percentages and reduced this type of impact, at least since July, 1979.

The possibility exists that the ratio of Commencement Notifications to PMNs submitted will continue to increase. If

146

the trends are considered and the number of PMNs submitted per month for the years 1980 and 1981 are plotted using a three month moving average, a steady upward trend can be seen (see Figure 3) with slight drops around the end of 1980 and the The lower area shows the cooresponding summer of 1981. averaged Commencement Notification submissions. Commencement Notification trends as a percent of total PMN submission can be plotted (see Figure 4) and appear to be leveling around 40%. If this trend continues, over 60% of the PMNs submitted will be for substances that never reach commerciality. The ideal situation would be Commencement Notifications overtaking PMNs but at least an equalization would be welcomed in terms of diverted resources.

Testing Costs. The second negative area is the cost of testing that is done to assess the toxicity of new substances entering commerce. This would seem to be a more quantifiable negative impact and in industries where a time lapse between line trial and scale-up exists, this is likely the case. Toxicological testing would be imposed somewhere in that period and any additional testing done for compliance purposes is easily separated from what would have been normal testing. As discussed, this becomes less possible as competitiveness of the market areas increases. Manufacturers in fiercely competitive industries, where the commercialization process is compressed, forced further are even back along the product commercialization lifeline to allow development of supporting data, sufficiently anticipating PMN submissions. Forcing early risk considerations and decisions is not an entirely negative effect, but if a closer look is taken at the way business is done, it can be seen that the potential for much unnecessary testing exists even in commercially successful product lines.

In polymer industries increasing occupational exposures to a decreasing number of products tend generally to occur as commercialization is approached. Through basic resin research, development activities, scale up and line trials, an increasing amount of exposure is typically experienced. Commercialization can also bring exposures that are quite significant depending upon the particular end use. It can also be said that the "technically ratio of individuals exposed, who are not qualified"(8) to recognize potentially adverse effects. increases similarly. The nature of the product throughout this period also changes. There are seldom exposures to other than a mixture containing the new substance and this mixture becomes increasingly complicated. As a potential product is brought employees. toward commercialization. more primarily non-technical, will be exposed and the substance to which they are exposed will look substantially less like the "new

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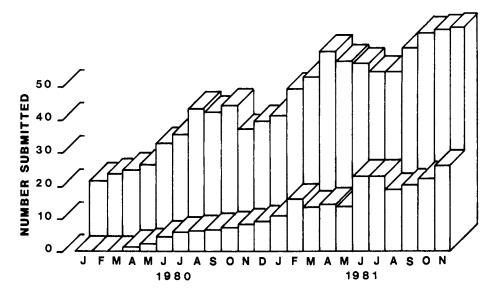


Figure 3. Three-month-averaged PMNs (upper area) and commencement notifications (lower area).

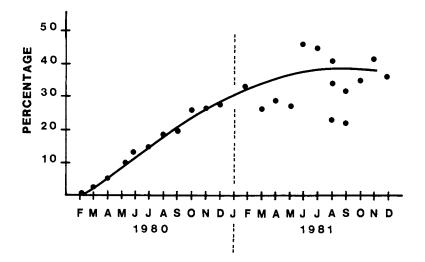


Figure 4. Commencement notification as percent of PMN.

In TSCA's Impact on Society and Chemical Industry; Ingle, G.; ACS Symposium Series; American Chemical Society: Washington, DC, 1983. substance" identified in the Premanufacture Notification form. In this setting, any action which forces testing decisions earlier in the research and development life of the product will:

- increase the incidence of testing products which ultimately fail;
- develop information on pure substances with relatively limited exposure;
- direct valuable resources from tests on final formulations which have much higher exposures.

PMN requirements have had these effects on the coatings polymer industry. There are some long-term positive aspects which will be discussed later.

In order to assess the amount of testing that was done for reactive polymer type materials an extensive Federal Register submission summary review was conducted. Selection criteria were: those submissions attributed directly to a coating or resin end use: those submissions for materials directly related to a coating and resin end use, such as paint pigments and polymerization catalysts; and those submissions, representing 16% of the total submissions in both years, which were **S**0 confidential that some subjectivity was necessary in assigning them by generic name to a particular group. This review is summarized in Table I. During this review, all submissions were also assessed in terms of toxicological data content. It can then be seen in Table II that the number of PMNs submitted as coatings and related materials and containing at least one substance-specific toxicological test, rose from 16% in 1980, to 30% in 1981. Similarly derived unrelated submission percentages dropped from 22% to 15% over the same period. Remembering from Table I, that for both years substances in coatings and related categories represented slightly more than half of the total submissions, it can be seen that testing initiatives for products in this area doubled in the second full year of compliance.

<u>Uncertainty</u>. The final component of negative impact is uncertainty. To say that there has been some industrial uncertainty during the implementation of TSCA is certainly an understatement. Indeed there are still pending; finalized Premanufacture regulations; Section 8(a) and 8(d) proposed regulations that have been in a constant state of uncertainty; Significant New Use Rules (SNURS); a constantly growing list of Interagency Testing Committee recommendations, and the individual new product uncertainty that each manufacturer faces every time the ninety day review period must be faced.

Not knowing how a potentially promising product will fare in the regulatory arena often prompts premature action.

 Table I.
 Percent of PMN Submissions For Coatings, Resins, and Other Related Substances

	1980	1981
C&R PMN'S	37%	33%
C&R RELATED PMN'S	4%	5%
POSSIBLE C&R (FROM CONFIDENTIAL)	16%	16%
TOTAL	57%	54%

Table II. Percent of Total PMN Submissions with Tests

	1980	1981
TOTAL PMN WITH TOXICOLOGY	38%	45%
NON C&R TESTS	22%	15%
C&R TESTS	16%	30%

Looking at a typical compliance experience illustrates this. In Figure 5, the number of submissions of one manufacturer are graphed for each compliance year, as a percent of their total overall submissions for all four years. A very low 6% in 1979, and 3% during January and February of 1982 can be seen. If projections are made for 1982, based on an average of the percent of the total that were submitted during the first two months of 1980 and 1981, submissions this year should only reach 12% of their total. PMN regulations were in effect for the last half of 1979 and the low figure shown is likely to be the result of six months of resources diverted in an attempt to accelerate commercialization to avoid the uncertainties of the upcoming regulations. At that time, only the original January 1979, version of the proposed regulations(9) had been 10. published and these are several orders of magnitude more cumbersome than anticipated. Accelerated anyone had commercialization efforts allowed an industrial regrouping until a more reasonable proposal was won.(10) Submissions then began to grow rapidly. Throughout the PMN compliance period, and particularly in 1981, it became evident thatthenotification process was not as onerous as most first feared. Current developments portend even further relief for polymers and as this information filters out, a decline in the number of PMNs filed in 1982 will no doubt be seen. Manufacturers will be more confident about the ability of their substances to withstand the process and will hold off filing until commerciality is more certain. Although a decline is being seen in a typical compliance example, it is not being seen as yet nationally. Figure 6 shows comparative January and February receipts as surrogates for annual compliance data for '80 and '81; a surprisingly consistent rate of growth can be seen.

Uncertainty is a factor in all of the impacts associated with TSCA. It was seen that it is a source of unnecessary resource diversion and toxicological testing. How much of a factor it becomes is a matter for debate. It can be said that for an industry such as coatings polymers, it is related to the company's commitment to safe and healthful products in the absence of TSCA. The more of a safety and health commitment that existed pre-TSCA, in that innovation was strongly linked to such concerns, the less uncertainty is going to be a significant impact.

Positive Components

Discussion of the negative impacts experienced with TSCA made several allusions to the long-term positive aspects of these effects. Where difficulty was experienced in quantification of negative impacts, even more difficulty is experienced with the

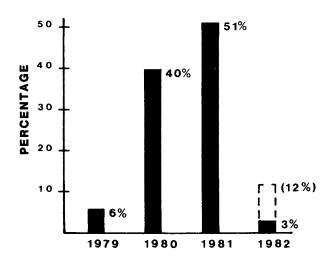


Figure 5. Typical compliance experience as percent of total PMNs.

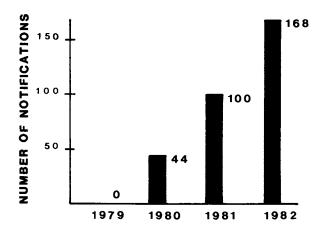


Figure 6. PMNs received in Jan. and Feb.

In TSCA's Impact on Society and Chemical Industry; Ingle, G.; ACS Symposium Series; American Chemical Society: Washington, DC, 1983. positive. Three general effects will be seen; resource diversification, or the increase in the ability of existing personnel and products to minimize compliance impacts; the establishment of new and improvement of old communication lines; and finally, improved planning.

<u>Diversification</u>. First diversification occurs because resources are diverted toward less characteristic functions. Two specific areas where TSCA has had impacts are personnel and products. Research, development, manufacture, process and Industrial Hygiene personnel must meet early in the potential product's life to make predictions concerning areas specific to each. This tends to give anyone present a somewhat broader view of the products with which they are involved.

Product diversification, defined as the ability of existing products to meet new needs, also becomes a positive component. Since TSCA makes it advantageous to find existing products to meet new market needs and avoid the notification process, resources diverted toward compiling data bases which had previously grouped chemicals by structure can now be used to that more suitable, positive end use. The potential exists in programs such as these for a great deal of sophistication and value in formulation. Access can be through variables such as property or toxicological ranges; trends and usages can be tracked; and an easily accessible, centralized source of information on produced substances is almost compulsory in terms of emergency response and product liability. So if the generation of less products to meet the same needs is advantageous, then some of the early diversion of technical personnel toward compliance activities could be eventially construed in a more positive light.

Communication and Planning. Next, positive effects can be seen when TSCA is imposed on the commercialization process in terms of communication. New lines are opened in terms of communications between research and development personnel and those associated with health and environment. As discussed before, with actions forced early in product initiatives, expedient contact between groups whose contacts were previously limited post-commercialization necessary. to are Pre-commercialization communication in many cases, took place only if some property or exposure situation precluded toxicological commercialization without considerations. Earlier communication also has the positive effect of orienting decisions concerning such preclusions toward appropriate expertise. A strengthening of existing communication lines within research and development can also be seen. Expedient feedback as the product approaches marketing is made necessary on a formalized basis to ensure that the most appropriate compliance decisions are made.

Not much can be said of impacts on planning except that improved planning is not a bad idea in any endeavor and that TSCA compliance urges improvement at all levels.

In summary, the Toxic Substances Control Act has, as expected, impacted significantly on the innovative process in the Coatings and Resins Industry. If viewed purely as another burdensome regulation, the negative impacts can far outweigh any benefits. Nearly every negative impact discussed has some positive aspect that the manufacturer committed to health and safety can maximize to reduce the total adverse effects. With EPA priorities, designed to lessen the impacts on new innovative industries, and an increased commitment in the a final net positive polymer industry toward testing, redirection of technology toward safer and more healthful products is not an impossibility.

Addendum

Though the rate of submission of Premanufacture Notifications is expected to decline, the number of risk assessments that must be conducted every month is unreasonable for any central body. It was seen previously that, in general, polymer manufacturers are becoming more committed to assessment of the toxicological properties of their materials and this is of product evaluation in general. With the probably true current reductions of agency resources, some of the duplicated effort could be eliminated by allowing, through the exemption pathway, industrial risk assessments to be conducted. In effect, some of the proposed exemptions that are currently cursorily accomplish this. These could be being considered expanded and the risk assessments themselves could be approved by the agency with submission contingent on the substances' failure of this internal system. Companies now use this type of system to make submission decisions, and the low percentage of materials that have failed the EPA assessment process is perhaps an indication that such a system could work.

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Effects of TSCA on the Metalworking Fluids Industry: Increased Awareness of Nitrosamine Contamination

HOWARD M. FRIBUSH

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Toxic Substances, Washington, DC 20460

The various effects of the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) on the metalworking fluids industry is presented, with emphasis placed on nitrosamine contamination of the fluids. A review of the literature on the effects of various metalworking fluid additives on nitrosamine formation is also presented to aid the industry in dealing with the nuisance of nitrosamine contamination. It is concluded that with increased awareness of nitrosamine contamination of TSCA and careful consideration of the factors described in this paper, it may be possible to design and control a nitrosamine-free metalworking fluid.

The Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) was passed by Congress in 1976. Congress enacted TSCA because it felt that the health and environmental risks presented by the production, distribution, use, and disposal of certain chemicals may be unacceptably high, or "unreasonable".

TSCA provides the EPA with a number of specific authorities to gather information and, where necessary, to control unreasonable risks. Section 4 gives EPA the authority to require manufacturers or processors of chemicals to test certain substances for toxic effects. To identify areas of greatest concern, Congress created under this section an interagency testing committee (ITC) composed of eight members drawn from various federal organizations. This committee recommends chemicals to EPA for priority consideration for test rules, and EPA must decide within one year what action, if any, to take on these recommendations.

Although Congress recognized that not all chemicals presented such risks, it had no mechanism for determining which chemicals to target for control prior to enactment. Congress also recognized that a balance would have to be struck between the need for mitigation of serious risks on one hand, and the benefits provided by chemicals and the costs of controlling risks on the other. Section 5(a) requires

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manufacturers who wish to introduce into commerce a chemical not on the TSCA Inventory to notify EPA at least 90 days before beginning manufacture. Congress thus recognized that the most desirable time to determine the health and environmental effects of a substance occurs before commercial production begins.

Section 8(e) of TSCA requires any person involved in the manufacture, processing, or distribution in commerce of chemicals to immediately notify the Agency of any information on a chemical which supports the conclusion that the chemical presents a substantial risk to health or the environment. Under Section 6, EPA may find that a chemical will present a risk to health or the environment and thus, must be controlled as a hazardous substance. EPA may apply one or more of the following controls to protect against the risk, using the least burdensome requirement and balancing social and economic factors, including benefits and availability of substitutes. EPA may (1) prohibit or limit production, distribution, or the amount handled; (2) prohibit or limit the amount used; (3) require labeling or instructions for handling; (4) require recordkeeping of production processes, monitoring, or testing for compliance; and (5) control disposal.

Metalworking fluids are essential for metalworking as they cool and lubricate cutting machines during the metalworking operation. With machine improvement and increased restrictions on the disposal of oil and grease, these fluids have been modified to minimize disposal problems and to accommodate higher speeds while increasing tool life. This technological achievement has resulted in a shift from oil-based to the rapidly growing water-based fluids, which contain various lubricant additives and preservatives. Nitrosamine formation in water-based metalworking fluids is a problem of which the industry is acutely aware, and has responded to by developing substitutes for the potent nitrosating agent nitrite. Nitrosamine formation in metalworking fluids appears to be affected by several factors, including (1) catalysis by metals, certain blocides, and nitrogen oxides; (2) surfactants; (3) pH; (4) unsuitable primary amines; (5) heat; and (6) storage of concentrates.

It must be noted that the metalworking fluids industry does not represent a unique situation and thus is not being isolated from the various sectors of the chemical industry. Rather, the nuisance of nitrosamine contamination in metalworking fluids has been recognized both by the industry and government for at least six years, and has provided the industry with an opportunity to study nitrosamines and voluntarily reduce or eliminate the problem. In fact, the metalworking industry deserves special recognition for the progress it has made in discovering replacements for nitrite, thus reducing dramatically the levels of nitrosamines in metalworking fluids. This paper attempts to demonstrate how TSCA can be used to aid a particular chemical industry, and to show how government and industry can work together to solve а particular problem—the inadvertant contamination of metalworking fluids with small amounts of nitrosamines. In particular, effects of relevant sections of TSCA on the metalworking fluids

industry will be discussed followed by a technical analysis of the effects of the fluids on nitrosamine formation.

Major Trends in the Metalworking Fluids Industry

Section 8 of TSCA has made EPA and the industry aware of nitrosamine contamination in metalworking fluids. In one particular potentially significant notice of substantial risk (8E-1077-0012), skin painting studies showed an increase above the expected normal incidence of tumors in the livers and lungs of mice with no unusual incidence of skin tumors. Due to the similarity between the observed effects and the mechanism of action of nitrosamines (i.e., the apparent systemic effect of the substance and organ specificity of the tumors), the company attributed the response to a nitrosamine contaminant in the fluid.

With respect to the Agency, Section 5 of TSCA has made EPA more familiar with trends in the metalworking fluids industry, the chemical components of the fluids, and the interactions between the various components. Major trends in the industry are (1) a shift from the traditional oil-based to the rapidly growing water-based fluids; (2) a shift from the use of the nitrosating agent nitrite as a rust inhibitor; (3) the use of multifunctional additives; and (4) the careful monitoring of various factors and additives associated with these fluids.

The shift from straight oils to synthetics has resulted mainly from machine improvement and increased restrictions on the disposal of oil and grease. Thus, metalworking fluids have been modified with water to minimize disposal problems and with chemicals to preserve the fluids and to accommodate higher speeds while increasing tool life.

Typical cutting and grinding fluid concentrates, for example, may contain from 10-20% emulsifier (1), 25-50% lubricating agent, and 0-1% antimicrobial. They may also contain 1-10% corrosion inhibitor (2), unless the emulsifying and corrosion inhibiting properties are provided by the same additive (3). These formulated concentrates are later diluted with water 10-100 fold for the actual metalworking operation. (4, 5, 6). Although preferences among straight oils, semi-synthetics, and synthetics vary, in general the most recently developed synthetic fluids appear to provide superior performance to the more traditional fluids. This has resulted in an increased demand for synthetics, and a rather large number of chemicals are now available for use in these fluids, with selection of a particular fluid based on a state-of-the-art knowledge.

Unfortunately, not all combinations of chemical additives in water-based fluids are completely compatible, and side reactions leading to various byproducts have been noted. The best known of these side reactions is the reaction between the corrosion inhibitor nitrite and the emulsifiers di- and triethanolamine (7) to form N-nitrosodiethanolamine (NDE1A), a nitrosamine reported to have carcinogenic activity (8, 9, 10). In fact, most nitrosamines are carcinogenic, and no animal species which has been tested is resistant to nitrosamine-induced cancer. Although there is no direct evidence that firmly links human cancer to nitrosamines, it is unlikely that humans should be uniquely resistant. Since nitrosamines have been detected in "certain localities" it is imperative that populations exposed to nitrosamines be identified. (11)

Nitrosamine contamination in metalworking fluids is a problem of which the industry is and has been acutely aware, and has responded to by voluntarily developing substitutes for the potent nitrosating agent Receipts by EPA of premanufacture notices (PMN) under nitrite. Section 5 of TSCA also reflect a high level of research activity by chemical manufacturers to develop corrosion inhibitors for metalworking fluids which will not lead to the formation of nitrosamines during the normal use life of the fluids. For example, in more than one instance a presumably nitrosamine-free nitrite replacement was shown to be contaminated by or potentially form nitrosamines. From our knowledge of this area, we surmised that the nitrosating agent was a byproduct from manufacture of the feedstock used to produce the PMN substance. This assumption was further supported by the technical data sheet describing the feedstock, which indicated that it contained as an impurity roughly 10% of a nitrosating agent. Subsequent analysis by the manufacturer confirmed the source of the contamination. The problem was solved by substituting a purer form of the feedstock, at a minimal cost increase, which resulted in a considerable drop in the nitrosamine level. In another PMN case the chemical manufacturer produced a fluid that was incompatible with the presence of nitrite, breaking down when nitrite was added. Thus, with respect to the industry the TSCA program may have (1) stimulated a greater awareness of the presence of nitrosamines in metalworking fluids; (2) stimulated a greater awareness of the potential of the various raw materials to give rise to nitrosamines; (3) emphasized the need for nitrite substitutes; and (4) stimulated thought and study to determine the various effects of metalworking fluids on nitrosamine formation.

Nitrite substitutes can be divided into seven chemical categories: (1) amine benzoates; (2) fatty acid amines; (3) phosphate or carbonate silicates; (4) organophosphates; (5) amine borates; (6) alkanolamines; and (7) quaternary ammonium compounds ("quats"). Thus, the technology already exists for replacing nitrite with no loss in rust protection. However, most replacements for nitrite are more expensive, less effective, less likely to be compatible with other additives, and work by a different mechanism (12). It is therefore not surprising that fluids containing nitrite are still relatively common.

Because water-based fluids do not last as long as the more conventional oil-based fluids, careful monitoring of fluids is required. In addition to the standard analyses for pH, dirt and metal fines, dissolved iron, and tramp oil, the introduction of various chemical additives has required the additional monitoring of organic amines, ammonia, rust inhibitors, water hardness, and even nitrosamines in some cases.

The following discussion is intended to show how metalworking fluids can affect nitrosamine formation, even when their formation is not apparent. It is also intended to provide the industry with information that may enable it to cope with unforeseen nitrosamine contamination in metalworking fluids.

History of Nitrosamines in Metalworking Fluids

The issue of nitrosamine contamination in metalworking fluids was a relatively quiet topic until 1976 when four reports appeared in technical journals, magazines, and government bulletins. Zingmark and Rappe (13) showed that NDELA could be synthesized under simulated gastric conditions from a grinding fluid containing triethanolamine and nitrite. From unpublished, preliminary studies by Fine, the National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health published a Current Intelligence Bulletin which presented industrial hygiene practices that could help reduce dermal and respiratory exposures to metalworking fluids (14). This information subsequently appeared as bulletins in Chemical Week (15) and Chemical and Engineering News (16).

Fine's preliminary monitoring study in the U.S. showed that 1000 ppm NDEIA was present in a diluted fluid prior to use, and that 400 ppm remained after use. Furthermore, in a UK machine shop, 600 ppm NDEIA was found in the fluid. Spurred by the results of these preliminary findings, Fine, in a random selection of eight commercially available fluid concentrations in the Boston area, found NDEIA levels ranging from 0.02 to 3% (7). These results strongly indicated that secondary and tertiary amines are precursors to nitrosamines in nitritecontaining metalworking fluids.

NDELA is not the only nitrosamine reported to have been identified in metalworking fluids. A fluid in the Netherlands was found to be contaminated with 5-methyl-N-nitrosooxazolidine (17). The two most likely explanations by which nitrosooxazolidines may be formed in metalworking fluids are (1) simple nitrosation of oxazolidine antimicrobials; and (2) nitrosation of primary beta-hydroxy amines (18). The latter reaction is an example of the conversion of a primary amine into a nitrosamine.

It has been demonstrated that beta-hydroxynitrosamines such as NDEIA may undergo retroaldol-type reactions in strongly alkaline medium to form nitrosamines of lower molecular weight (19, 20). In some cases the nitrosamines formed from the retroaldol reaction are more potent animal carcinogens than is NDEIA.

Nitrosamine formation in metalworking fluids appears to be affected by several factors. These factors can be divided into the following categories: (1) catalysts; (2) accelerators; (3) inhibitors; and (4) physical properties affecting nitrosamine formation. Although the presence of nitrite in metalworking fluids leads to high concentrations of nitrosamines, nitrite-free metalworking fluids have also been shown to accumulate nitrosamines (19).

Catalysis of Nitrosamine Formation

Formaldehyde, released from certain antimicrobials in metalworking fluids, activates a mines toward nitrosation by nitrite (21). This reaction enhances nitrosation in neutral and basic medium. Since metalworking fluids are typically of pH 9-11, formaldehyde released from

antimicrobials into metalworking fluids may be a factor that could enhance nitrosamine formation in this medium (20).

Thiocyanate, an anion normally secreted in human saliva, also catalyzes the nitrosation of amines by nitrite (22). The mechanism of the reaction is thought to proceed through the formation of nitrosylthiocyanate and subsequent reaction with amine to form the nitrosamine. This reaction, originally investigated to assess the potential of nitrosamine formation in the human digestive system, can be related to metalworking fluids since saliva has been found in such fluids (23, 24). Furthermore, the levels of thiocyanate in the saliva of non-smokers contains about 50 mg/l while in smokers the saliva contains 3 to 4 times this concentration (25). Fortunately, thiocyanate exerts its strongest effect at pH 1.5 and becomes less effective as the pH increases. At the relatively high pH of metalworking fluids the catalytic effect of thiocyanate (from saliva) on nitrosamine formation may thus be somewhat lessened.

Microorganisms have been shown to catalyze the formation of nitrosamines from secondary amines in the presence of nitrite (26). The amount of nitrosamine formed, however, increased as the basicity of the parent amine decreased, presumably due to the increase in the amount of unprotonated amine present (27). This reaction is especially important with respect to metalworking fluids since water-based fluids are inevitably contaminated by microbes and fungi. Microbes are thought to catalyze nitrosamine formation by lowering the pH of the medium or catalysis by one or more unidentified metabolic products.

Accelerators of Nitrosamine Formation

Chemical complexes of various transition metals have been shown to promote N-nitrosation (28). These metal complexes include ferrocyanide, ferricyanide, cupric ion, molybate ion, cobalt species, and mercuric acetate. All of the reactions are thought to proceed by oxidation-reduction mechanisms. However, such promotion may not be characteristic of transition metal complexes in general, since ferricyanide ion has been shown to promote nitrosation in metalworking fluids, whereas ferric EDTA does not (20). Since the metalworking operation generates metal chips and fines which build up in the fluids, this reaction could be of significance in the promotion of nitrosamine formation in water-based metalworking fluids.

Biocides that function as formaldehyde-releasers comprise about 60% of total sales of antimicrobials (29). Thus, such antimicrobials are expected to be common additions to metalworking fluids. Examples of tris(hydroxymethyl) form aldehyde-releasing antimicrobials are nitromethane, trivially called nitro, 4,4'-(2-ethyl-2tris nitromethylene)dimorpholine, morpholine. and 4-(2-nitrobuty1) Experiments involving the formaldehyde-releaser 1,3,5trimethylhexahydro-s-triazine have shown that this antimicrobial exerts a significant catalytic effect on nitrosamine formation in metalworking fluids (20). In fluids containing diethanolamine the nitrosamine yield reached 50 ppm in 2 days at room temperature. An antimicrobial structurally similar to tris nitro is bronopol, which is widely used in cosmetics and shampoos. A feature common to these compounds is the C-nitro group, which is also thought to release nitrite (30). In the presence of amines, C-nitro compounds are indeed nitrosating agents, and their nitrosation potential increases with addition of electronwithdrawing groups (31). As expected, it has been shown that the rate of formation of NDE1A from bronopol and triethanolamine decreases as the pH is decreased from 6 to 4 (32). Thus C-nitro-containing, formaldehyde-releasing antimicrobials possess in the same molecule both the nitrosating agent and the catalyst for its reaction with amines.

Surfactants that form micelles have also been shown to accelerate the formation of nitrosamines from amines and nitrite (33) A rate enhancement of up to 800-fold was observed for the nitrosation of dihexylamine by nitrite in the presence of the cationic surfactant decyltrimethylammonium bromide (DTAB) at pH 3.5. A critical micelle concentration (CMC) of 0.08% of DTAB was required to cause this effect, which was attributed to a micelle with the hydrocarbon chains buried in the interior of the micelle. The positively-charged ends of the micelle would then cause an aggregation of free nitrosatable amine relative to protonated amine and thus lead to rate enhancements. Since surfactants are commonly used in water-based fluids (25-50% lubricating agent or 10-20% emulsifier in concentrates), concentrations above the CMC of a micelle-forming surfactant could enhance the formation of nitrosamines.

The massive contamination of NDE1A in alkaline synthetic fluids (3%) found by Fan et al (7) cannot be explained by known nitrosation kinetics of di- or triethanolamine. Instead, more powerful nitrosation routes, possibly involving nitrogen oxide (NO_x) derivatives (e.g., NO_2 , N_2O_2) may be responsible for the amounts of NDE1A in these products (34). In fact, a nitrite-free commercial concentrate was shown to accumulate NDE1A up to about 100 days at which time the levels dropped dramatically (19). Inhibition of NO_X contaminants may be an effective route to the inhibition of nitrosamine formation in metalworking fluids.

Inhibition of Nitrosamine Formation

Inhibitors of nitrosation generally function by competing with the amine for the nitrosating agent. An inhibitor would thus react with nitrite at a faster rate than with amines. The inhibition reaction has recently been reviewed (35). The ability of ascorbate to act as a potent inhibitor of nitrosamine formation has resulted in the use of the vitamin in nitrite-preserved foods and pharmaceuticals. Furthermore, the effectiveness of ascorbate in inhibiting nitrosamine formation is dependent on (1) the concentration of ascorbate (an excess is required); (2) pH (ascorbate is nitrosated 240 times more rapidly than ascorbic acid); (3) the reactivity of the amine toward nitrosation; and (4) the extent of oxygenation of the system.

In addition to ascorbate and its derivatives, other substances including alpha tocopherol, glutathione, urea, ammonium sulfamate, an

unidentified component of milk, sodium sulfite, and cysteine have been shown to inhibit nitrosation by competing for the available nitrosating agent.

Phenols are antimicrobial rather common components of metalworking fluids; however, their use in recent years has been declining (36). The inhibition of nitrosation by phenols has recently been reviewed (35). In general, phenolic compounds inhibit nitrosation by reacting with nitrite (phenol reacts with nitrite 10,000 times faster than with dimethylamine), but the intermediate nitrosophenol is unstable and enhances nitrosation. "The overall effect is dependent on the steady state concentration of the nitrosophenol and the relative degrees of retardation and enhancement exerted by the phenol and the nitrosophenol, respectively (35)".

An extre mely desirable method to completely eliminate nitrosamine formation in metalworking fluids would entail replacing any nitrosatable amines with non-nitrosatable amines. Primary amines can be converted to stable nitrosamines only via deaminative self-alkylation, normally a low yield process (18). Glycolamine, a dimer of monoethanolamine, exhibited promising results in a preliminary study (20). In this study, NDE1A and nitrosomorpholine were each produced in 10 ppm yield only when the glycolamine control fluid was held at 100°C for 48h. Furthermore, highly substituted secondary amines have been suggested as "safe a mine" substitutes for nitrosa mine precursors in other products (37).

Physical Properties Affecting Nitrosamine Formation

The effect of temperature on nitrosation has not been studied in great detail. Since nitrosation in aqueous solution is reversible, and the nitrogen-nitrogen partial double bond is heat labile [the dissociation energy of the N-N bond in dimethylnitrosamine is at least 30 kcal/mole (3), it would be expected that at a particular temperature, a steady state concentration would be reached, after which time the nitrosamine would begin to decompose. A factor that could complicate the understanding of this process is that heating may change the mechanism of the nitrosation-denitrosation reaction (e.g., from an ionic to a free radical reaction). Since metalworking fluids experience extremely high temperatures at the point of contact between the machine and the metal, and because the average temperature of the fluid in the basin during use is about 40°C (105°F), temperature may play an important role in nitrosamine formation in metalworking fluids. Preliminary unpublished results indicate that a nitrite-containing fluid that was heated experienced a 5000-fold increase in NDELA compared to the unheated control (20).

Nitrosamine levels in concentrates containing nitrite have been shown to increase during storage $(\underline{39})$. Since a concentrate could contain up to 45% triethanolamine and 18% nitrite (7), the concentrate provides an ideal situation in which reaction may occur. In this study, conducted over a 5 to 7 month period, the concentration of NDELA increased from 400 to 800 ppm. The pH of a metalworking fluid must be kept above neutrality in order to prevent acid corrosion of the metal. In vitro, acid catalyzed nitrosation is optimized at pH 3.5 (40); however, it has been shown that in the presence of other catalysts, aqueous solutions of amines and nitrite leads to significant yields of nitrosamines at room temperature over the pH range of 6.4 to 11.0 (41). Furthermore, C-nitro-containing, formaldehyde-releasing blocides, such as bronopol or tris nitro, exert their potential catalytic effect in alkaline solution. It would thus be desirable to determine the optimum pH for a metalworking fluid that would lead to the lowest concentration of nitrosamine possible.

In summary, it appears that TSCA may have had several effects on the metalworking fluids industry. The reporting requirements of Section 8 have demonstrated an awareness to both EPA and industry, not only of the presence of nitrosamines in metalworking fluids, but of their intrinsic mechanism of action. The TSCA program may have stimulated research in areas of replacing nitrite and may have increased the awareness of the various factors involved in the formation of nitrosamines in metalworking fluids. By enabling EPA and industry to evaluate and/or study the various aspects of metalworking fluids on nitrosamine formation, the TSCA program has encouraged nitrosaminefree nitrite substitutes to be introduced into commerce.

A review of the literature has revealed that several factors associated with metalworking fluids may enhance or control the formation of nitrosamines in metalworking fluids. If nitrite is present in the concentrate with appropriate amines the nitrosamine levels can reach the part-per-hundred level. Yet even nitrite-free metalworking fluid concentrates have been shown to contain part-per-million quantities of nitrosamines.

Factors that catalyze or promote nitrosation are metal complexes, formaldehyde (and other carbonyl compounds), thiocyanate, microorganisms, certain antimicrobials, micelle-forming surfactants, nitrogen oxides, and storage of concentrates (time). Various compounds exist that inhibit nitrosation, and some may be compatible with metalworking fluids (ascorbate, sulfite). The normally alkaline pH of metalworking fluids inhibits acid catalyzed nitrosation, and temperature appears to affect nitrosamine levels as well, albeit at this time the effect is not well understood. The use of certain non-nitrosatable amines and agents that react with nitrogen oxides probably would provide the greatest reduction in, if not elimination of, nitrosation in metalworking fluids.

Thus, with increased awareness and careful consideration of the factors described in this paper, it may be possible to design and control a nitrosamine-free metalworking fluid.

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Impact on Public Health

MICHAEL J. LIPSETT

SRI International, Menlo Park, CA 94025

Regulations promulgated under the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) may have a beneficial impact on public health, though such an impact will be difficult to measure or to estimate. Such an evaluation of TSCA's effects is problematic because of: the difficulty in isolating impacts of TSCA regulations from other environmental or occupational health statutes; the insensitivity of epidemiologic studies in detecting chronic effects of low-level chemical exposure; and the preventive nature of the Act, which subjects new as well as existing chemicals to regulation. A more practical difficulty exists in that, five years after the enactment of TSCA, few chemical substances have been subject to regulation. This paper will discuss why an evaluation of the health impact of TSCA must of necessity remain somewhat speculative.

I have been asked to discuss the human health impacts of TSCA. Any examination of such "impacts" of the Act should focus on effects that can be measured or estimated. However, in cases where the statutory goals are primarily preventive in nature, measurement or even estimation of health benefits may prove elusive. Although TSCA contains language that appears to require some consideration of the impact of regulation, it is unlikely that Congress intended that precise quantitative evaluation of the effects of TSCA be undertaken. As we shall see, such an evaluation is not feasible.

Out of the universe of potential health effects that could be evaluated, I will focus on those specifically designated in the Act itself--cancer, birth defects and gene mutations. This is not to say that other potential health impacts of chemical exposure are unimportant. Rather, these three named effects represent a relatively circumscribed basis by which to evaluate the Act in terms of its explicit priorities.

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In the first section of my talk I hope to show why measurement of these effects as a function of regulatory actions under TSCA is not practical. If such effects are not measurable, then for regulatory purposes they must be estimated, usually by extrapolation from animal experiments. I will briefly indicate that quantitative extrapolation is an uncertain business. In the second section, I will summarize TSCA's probable impact on health, methodological difficulties in measurement notwithstanding. I will conclude with some remarks about recent regulatory pronouncements which seem to indicate that if past policies have had little discernible health impact, future ones may have even less.

Practical Limitations on Measurement of Health Impact

Assuming, for the sake of argument, that some far-reaching regulations had been promulgated limiting human exposure to one or more substances suspected of causing cancer, birth defects, or gene mutations, it would be difficult, if not impossible, to measure any effect on the incidence of these conditions attributable to such regulations. Some conceptual and practical impediments to such measurement include:

- Difficulty isolating the effect of TSCA from consumer protection and other environmental and occupational health statutes and regulations.
- Relative insensitivity of epidemiologic studies in detecting long-term effects of low-level chemical exposures.
- Inability in most instances to detect potential beneficial health effects from reduced exposure to chemicals due to the chronic nature and multifactorial etiologies of the conditions in question.
- The preventive nature of the Act, under which new as well as existing chemicals may be subject to regulation.

Isolation of TSCA's Effect. There are at least 17 federal statutes and numerous state laws purporting to regulate human exposure to hazardous substances. While many chemical substances that may pose chronic health hazards are excluded from regulation under TSCA (e.g., pesticides, drugs, cosmetics, alcoholic products, food additives, tobacco), others are potentially subject to concurrent regulation under several statutes, including TSCA. For example, asbestos, a well-recognized human carcinogen, may be regulated by EPA under TSCA, and at the same time is subject to regulation by the same agency under the Clean Air and Clean Water Acts. The Consumer

> In TSCA's Impact on Society and Chemical Industry; Ingle, G.; ACS Symposium Series; American Chemical Society: Washington, DC, 1983.

Product Safety Commission regulates the presence of asbestos in various consumer products. Workplace ambient standards for asbestos have been established under the Occupational Safety and Health Act, though the basis for such regulation is not carcinogenicity. Many other chemical substances are subject to overlapping regulation with respect to different aspects of human activity. Thus, with the exception of chemical exposures uniquely subject to regulation under TSCA, the potential influence of this statute on overall human exposure to hazardous chemicals will be diluted by the effects of regulations promulgated under other environmental, occupational, and consumer protection statutes.

Insensitivity of Epidemiologic Studies. There are obvious ethical and legal limitations on administering potential carcinogens, mutagens and teratogens to humans in an experimental setting. Therefore, to evaluate whether particular chemical agents increase the risk of chronic health effects, one must rely on epidemiologic studies of populations exposed to such agents. Since epidemiologic investigations are not controlled experiments, and since they are usually undertaken retrospectively, they are subject to limitations that affect their sensitivity to detect chronic effects. One of the most important limitations is the lack of good exposure data.

With the exception of industrial hygiene data for selected industries and ambient air quality monitoring for Clean Air Act "criteria" pollutants, there is little more than sporadic sampling of environmental media and human environments for chemicals that could be subject to TSCA regulation. attempting to study whether human exposure to a particular chemical is associated with a given chronic disease outcome, one must try to ascertain past exposure to that chemical. However, in settings other than the workplace, measurements of this kind are virtually nonexistent. In addition, people who work with chemicals are typically exposed to multiple substances, and such overlapping exposures may be difficult to control for either in the design or the analysis of epidemiologic studies. In non-occupational contexts, uncontrolled and unmonitored low-level exposures to multiple substances in food, air, and water are a typical feature of everyday life that may make epidemiologic identification of independent risk factors even more difficult. For most chemicals potentially subject to TSCA regulation, epidemiologic studies will not be able to resolve questions of associations of chemical exposures with particular disease outcomes.

Chronic Nature of Diseases in Question. Cancer is a disease characterized in most cases by a latency period of 15 to 40 years. That is, there is a lag of 15 years or more between initial exposure to a carcinogen and the manifestation of the disease. (The principal exceptions to this observation are cancers of the hematopoetic tissues, which have a minimum latency period of around 5 years.) Thus, to measure the effects of some hypothetical regulations, one would have to look at cancer incidence 15 or more years after their adoption among a defined group of people who would otherwise be exposed to the chemical or chemicals in question.

For existing chemicals that are recognized human carcinogens, it might be possible to estimate the number of cancers avoided by reducing exposure over a lifetime. In theory this could be calculated using dose-response information to estimate the benefits of a percentage reduction of exposure to particular chemical substances. Unfortunately, such human dose-response data are unavailable for all but a few carcinogens, and even for these, the effects of low doses can only be guessed.

With respect to birth defects, the time lag between exposure and outcome is not so much of a problem as is the case with cancer. However, attributing human birth defects to chemical exposures (other than pharmaceutical products, smoking, alcohol, and a few occupational exposures), is difficult. Even if a particular substance is capable of causing birth defects in humans, the occurrence of such an outcome depends on the dose, on the route of maternal exposure, and on the timing of the exposure. Nevertheless, epidemiologic investigations (principally case-control studies) have ascertained causal relationships between chemical exposures and adverse reproductive outcomes, such as congenital anomalies. Most fetal defects are incompatible with fetal survival and result in spontaneous abortion. This potentially sensitive parameter of birth defects--i.e., spontaneous abortion--is not routinely monitored, and therefore provides no baseline from which to measure the potential effect of reducing a given chemical exposure.

Defects among live births are, however, routinely but not systematically monitored nationwide by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC). This monitoring system probably does not convey an accurate picture of the prevalence of birth defects, though, since it is based on hospital discharge abstracts, which often do not contain information about any but the most severe and obvious congenital anomalies. These abstracts contain little or no information on maternal factors, such as occupational exposures. Thus this system would probably not be sensitive enough to detect the effects of eliminating or significantly reducing chemical exposures, if such exposures do in fact have a major influence on the incidence of birth defects. Recent estimates of the percentage of birth defects attributable to environmental exposures of all kinds, including smoking, drugs, infections, radiation, and general environmental chemicals, indicate that this category probably represents about 10% of birth defects.(1) Most congenital anomalies (about 2/3) are of

unknown etiology. Chemicals that have been linked to birth defects or other reproductive effects have been detected as etiologic agents because pregnant women have had relatively large, well-documented exposures in the form of ingestion of drugs or alcohol, accidental poisoning, or occupational exposure. Epidemiologic studies are, in general, too insensitive to detect effects at lower exposure levels, unless the substance of interest is extremely potent.

With respect to the third chronic health effect mentioned specifically in TSCA--gene mutations--again the nature of the effect in question is such that historical measurement is not feasible. Mutagenic properties are studied in microbial, cell culture, and animal systems. Human body fluids can be monitored for the presence of mutagenic substances, but this does not actually measure genetic effects. While several methods for monitoring mutational events in humans are being developed, none is ready yet for general use.(2) There are, however, cytogenetic techniques to examine potential genetic effects of chemical exposure on humans. These look at a higher level of genetic organization--chromosomal and chromatid aberrations. Some studies of persons exposed to chemicals demonstrate an increase of such aberrations correlating with the time of exposure. In other investigations, individual variability has overshadowed any differences that might be attributable to chemical exposure. Such investigations are complicated by a lack of knowledge about the frequency and persistence of spontaneous chromosomal aberrations. Furthermore, there is little evidence linking such changes to specific diseases, though intuitively one would expect such an association. (Several types of human cancers have been reported to be associated with specific chromosomal rearrangements.)

In general, mutational events are considered detrimental. Teleologically speaking, this is why living systems have evolved multiple DNA repair mechanisms. Some investigators have estimated that about 90% of known carcinogens act through mutational mechanisms.(3) Furthermore, many human diseases, including sickle cell anemia, thalassemia, mucopolysaccharidoses and others, are known to have a genetic basis. However, my point is that while the state-of-the-art of genetic toxicology is rapidly evolving, it is not yet capable of measuring mutagenic events in complex human systems. Cytogenetic techniques can detect chromosomal effects, though experience with these techniques is limited.

Regulation of New As Well As Existing Chemicals. An evaluation of TSCA's impact would differ from that of most environmental statutes in that the former purports to regulate new as well as existing chemicals. The objective of the premanufacturing notification (PMN) system under section 5 is to permit EPA to make a reasoned evaluation of new chemicals' toxicities prior to their production and distribution in commerce. EPA has authority to impose a broad spectrum of controls to prevent or minimize human and environmental exposure to chemicals that could result in disease. This authority has been used mainly to require more extensive testing of several suspect chemicals.

In the cases where EPA has formally required such testing, the manufacturers have withdrawn their applications and suspended plans to produce the chemicals. While the decision not to produce a potentially toxic substance may serve the goal of TSCA to identify and prevent hazards before people are exposed, how can one quantitate the health impact of the manufacturers' decisions? I pose this question rhetorically, since EPA's requests for additional testing stemmed from a data base inadequate to assess risk. In other words, since there was not enough information in the first place to know whether there might even be a substantial health risk, it would be impossible to estimate the health impact of deciding not to produce such chemicals.

By now I hope it is clear that measurement of the human health impact of TSCA, at least with respect to cancer, birth defects, and genetic mutations, is not currently feasible, for both practical and theoretical reasons. Thus, any evaluation of regulations under TSCA in terms of potential health benefits must be based on predictions from epidemiologic or clinical data, and from animal and microbial models. Risk assessment without human toxicity data is unavoidable under section 5 regulatory decisions concerning new chemicals, though for regulations of existing chemicals, clinical and epidemiologic evidence may be available. However, in most cases where exposure to chemical substances (other than drugs or cigarettes) has been shown to be associated with cancer or birth defects in humans, accurate exposure data are not available, and therefore dose-response curves can be only crudely approximated.

In animal experiments exposures can be carefully controlled, and dose-response curves can be formally estimated. Extrapolating such information to the human situation is often done for regulatory purposes. There are several models for estimating a lifetime cancer risk in humans based on extrapolation from animal data. These models, however, are premised on empirically unverified assumptions that limit their usefulness for quantitative purposes. While quantitative cancer risk assessment is widely used, it is by no means universally accepted. Using different models, one can arrive at estimates of potential cancer incidence in humans that vary by several orders of magnitude for a given level of exposure. Such variations make it rather difficult to place confidence intervals around benefits estimations for regulatory purposes. Furthermore, low dose risk estimation methods have not been developed for chronic health effects other than cancer. The

> In TSCA's Impact on Society and Chemical Industry; Ingle, G.; ACS Symposium Series; American Chemical Society: Washington, DC, 1983.

implication of the limitations of risk assessment methodology and health impact measurement is that, with narrowly defined exceptions, health benefits of TSCA regulations cannot be realistically estimated.

Few Effects of TSCA Regulatory Actions

If the health impact of TSCA regulations is not possible to measure, and if estimates of health benefits of regulations are difficult to quantify, little has been achieved under TSCA that could be measured or estimated. In the next section of this paper, I will be discussing regulation under section 5, which deals with new chemicals and significant new uses of existing chemicals, and under section 6, which involves chemical substances and mixtures known to be hazardous. I will not discuss actions under section 8, concerning potential health hazard reporting, nor will I cover the effects of actions undertaken by the individual states with section 28 grants.

Impacts directly attributable to TSCA regulations include several proposed and final regulations directed at specific chemical substances under section 6--polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), dioxin, chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs), and asbestos--and orders issued under section 5(e).

PCBs. Congress singled out PCBs from all other environmental contaminants for regulatory attention under section 6(e) of TSCA. EPA was directed to develop regulations for labelling, use and disposal, as well as to promulgate rules for implementing a statutory ban on manufacturing, processing and distribution of PCBs other than in a "totally enclosed manner" or in a way that the EPA Administrator considered safe. In a legal challenge to these regulations early last year, the D.C. Court of Appeals found EPA's definition of "totally enclosed uses" to be unsupported by the procedural record, and directed EPA to rewrite some parts of these regulations. Subsequently the judge's order was stayed for 18 months to allow EPA to gather additional evidence. Thus, the reformulation of these rules will not be completed until later this year or early 1983. Those PCB regulations still on the books may have helped to diminish human exposure to PCBs, though for the reasons discussed earlier, the health impact of such diminished exposure is not measurable.

<u>Dioxin</u>. Two years ago, EPA promulgated a rule prohibiting Vertac Chemical Corporation from disposing of waste contaminated by dioxin. Other parties intending to dispose of similarly contaminated wastes were required to notify EPA 60 days in advance of their intentions. This order may have prevented some exposure to this highly toxic substance, though the human health impact of this single prohibition cannot be calculated.

Asbestos. EPA issued a proposed rule concerning identification and correction of friable asbestos-containing materials in schools. Based on data voluntarily submitted, EPA estimated that at least 8,600 public schools attended by over 3 million children contain such materials. However, EPA reportedly has no information on another 44,000 schools. Classroom concentrations of asbestos fibers in some schools have been found to approximate concentrations in homes of asbestos workers who do not have shower or laundry facilities at work. Since children exposed to asbestos will live long enough to allow the cancer latency period to elapse, the presence of friable asbestos materials in schools represents a potentially enormous public health problem. The final asbestos rule will reportedly be promulgated in the near future. (The rule was published May 27, 1982.) No other regulations regarding asbestos have been issued.

<u>CFCs</u>. All "nonessential" uses of CFCs in aerosol propellents were banned in 1978--the first and only major control action under TSCA not specifically mandated by the statute. This action may have helped to reduce the future incidence of skin cancer by diminishing CFCs' destructive effects on stratospheric ozone. Making appropriate assumptions about rates of ozone depletion and extrapolating from current disease rates, one could estimate a range of cancers avoided because of this prohibition. However, any health benefit due to the ban on aerosol CFC uses may be masked by the continued increase in non-aerosol uses.

All in all, regulatory actions under section 6 are not likely to have achieved a major effect on human health. One reason for this is that under TSCA section 9, regulatory deference is accorded to other statutes and, where appropriate, to other regulatory agencies. Another is that TSCA is conceptually more difficult to administer than other environmental statutes that set target goals and dates for pollution reduction. TSCA focuses instead on the prevention of "unreasonable risks," in which the definition of what is unreasonable depends in part on potential health benefits that are difficult to quantify. While there have been other impediments to the regulation of known hazards, one critical factor has been EPA's de-emphasis of such regulatory actions in favor of gathering data and setting up a system to screen and monitor new chemicals.

<u>PMNs for New Chemicals</u>. How well has the PMN system worked from the perspective of protecting human health? As was noted earlier, there is no way to directly measure the benefits. Nine chemicals have been withdrawn from production as a result of orders requiring more extensive testing. Informal negotiations

176

reportedly resulted in labelling and use restrictions or further testing on about 60 others.(4) There is no way to assess the impact of these actions on health, since the content of these informal negotiations is not public knowledge.

Although TSCA section 2 assigns the responsibility for developing adequate toxicity data to manufacturers and processors of chemicals, it has been staff members of EPA who have been doing most of the toxicologic work under section 5. As of the end of 1980, two-thirds of PMNs submitted contained no toxicity information whatsoever. Preliminary statistics from 1981 indicate that a greater percentage of PMNs during the past year contained more toxicity testing information. Still, there were few chronic toxicity data. The lack of such information has meant that EPA's evaluations have had to be conducted on the basis of structure-activity relationships. Such analyses involve comparing the PMN chemicals to existing ones with similar structures whose toxicities are known.

Structure-activity studies are probably adequate for some substances. An example would be inert polymers whose monomeric components have been well-characterized toxicologically. For other chemicals, analyses based on a review of structural analogues may prove inadequate for at least three reasons. First, minor molecular modifications may have a dramatic effect on toxicologic properties. For instance, 2,6-heptanedione is relatively harmless, while 2,5-heptanedione is a neurotoxin.(5) Second, there may not be any corresponding chemicals for which adequate chronic toxicity data exist, since most existing chemicals have not been subject to such testing. Third, the molecular bases for chronic toxic effects have been thoroughly worked out only for certain classes of mutagens, carcinogens, and antimetabolites. Within these classes, structure-activity analyses can be useful in identifying potential "bad actors," and, indeed, have led to informal requests for more extensive toxicity data or to section 5(e) orders. However, other mechanisms of carcinogenicity and mutagenicity, as well as molecular explanations for teratogenicity, other adverse reproductive effects, neurotoxicity and other chronic toxic effects, have not been well-characterized and cannot be incorporated into structure-activity reviews. Thus, in the absence of testing of new chemicals for chronic toxic effects, the PMN review process probably cannot provide an adequate screening at the present time.

A former Assistant Administrator for Toxic Substances observed that such analyses are "based upon a fundamental lack of information and data. This in turn means that our information will be highly uncertain."($\underline{6}$) On the other hand, prior to the establishment of the PMN system, those chemicals for which EPA requested better data might otherwise have been produced or distributed in commerce with little or no testing whatever.

While there has been little regulatory action under sections 5 and 6, TSCA may have had some indirect health effects. For example, chemical companies are more aware now than they were five and a half years ago, when TSCA was enacted, about chronic health hazards in the workplace. In general, therefore, workplace exposures to chronic toxic hazards are likely to be lower than in the past. To some indeterminate extent, the compiling of the TSCA inventory and the TSCA reporting requirements may have played a role in creating a new awareness of chemical hazards. Other social and legal developments, however, have probably been more important in the creation of such an awareness. Among such other influences would have to be included product liability litigation, OSHA regulations, union pressures, and a more general increasing consciousness of potential adverse effects of chemical production and use, due to greater media coverage of these and related issues.

Conclusion

In this paper I have tried to show that measurement of health benefits attributable to TSCA is not feasible. I hope that in doing so I have not belabored the obvious. For new chemicals and for most existing chemicals, prospective evaluation of health benefits to be achieved by various exposure controls will have to be based on extrapolation from microbial and animal data. However, while such extrapolation may be useful in a qualitative sense, quantitative risk assessment techniques involve considerable uncertainty, and in any case have not been developed for chronic effects other than cancer.

Measurement or estimation of health impacts under TSCA would be premature, since relatively little has been done to regulate new or existing chemicals that could result in health benefits. The principal exception to this generalization is the ban on aerosol uses of CFCs, whose chronic effects on human health derive from their environmental impact rather than direct biological toxicity. Compared with other environmental laws, such as the Clean Air Act, the regulatory accomplishments of TSCA are somewhat insubstantial.

A large part of the difficulty in developing regulatory initiatives under TSCA may be the lack of specific statutory direction. Preventing unreasonable risks is harder to implement as a policy than achieving percentage reductions in air emissions of particular pollutants. The implementation of this Act has therefore tended to focus on information-gathering objectives rather than control activities.

Deciding what are reasonable or unreasonable risks depends on the quantity and quality of information about costs, risks and benefits of different levels of production and exposure controls with respect to a particular chemical or class of chemicals. To the extent that human epidemiological data are available, regulatory decisions should take them into account. However, to postpone such decisions (as has recently been done in the case of formaldehyde) on the grounds that ongoing or future epidemiologic studies will resolve critical health issues is, in my opinion, misguided.

Such studies (particularly cohort mortality studies) typically take several years to complete, and may not yield definitive answers. Because of the inherent limitations of such investigations, the usual standard of proof of causation in epidemiology is consistent results from multiple studies conducted under different conditions. Such studies cannot disprove the carcinogenicity of a chemical--at best, they can indicate only an upper limit of risk. The expense and relative insensitivity of epidemiologic investigations insure that they will be of limited importance in identifying chronic health effects attributable to specific chemical exposures. Finally, a policy of delay pending the results of epidemiologic studies implies that an apparently higher threshold of certainty regarding health risks must be reached before initiating regulatory action. This would make sections 5 and 6 even more difficult to implement, and would portend that the health impact of TSCA will continue to be of marginal significance.

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180

Quantitative Analysis as a Basis for Decisions Under TSCA

D. WARNER NORTH¹

Decision Focus Inc., Palo Alto, CA 94304

The language and the legislative history of TSCA leave ambiguous the extent to which formal analytical should be used to determine whether methods а chemical substance or mixture presents or may present an "unreasonable risk" of harm to human health or the environment. Decision makers implementing TSCA confront large uncertainties and great complexity in assessing the available information on chemical toxicity and exposure. Use of a probabilistic methodology such as decision analysis allows uncertainty to be included explicitly in the basis for decision. Case studies on specific chemicals indicate that quantitative approaches based on decision analysis offer significant potential for improvement of the regulatory decision process under TSCA. However, it is important that the analysis be perceived as a framework for discussion, debate, and investigation of sensitive assumptions rather than as a mechanistic formula for determining regulatory decisions.

Passage of the Toxic Substance Control Act (TSCA) in 1976 was widely regarded at the time as a welcome improvement in environmental legislation. Unlike the language of the Clean Air Act or the Delaney Amendment, TSCA avoids calling for absolute elimination of health risks, requiring instead a <u>balancing</u> between the adverse effects on health and the environment and the benefits of a chemical substance or mixture. The impact of TSCA to date has been somewhat disappointing. Environmentalists note that few regulatory decisions have been made under TSCA, and they fear that the Reagan Administration's call for cost-benefit analysis under Executive Order 12291 may result in aggravating EPA's preexisting

¹ Current address: 4984 El Camino Real, Suite 200, Los Altos, CA 94022.

0097-6156/83/0213-0181\$06.00/0 © 1983 American Chemical Society tendency toward "paralysis by analysis." Industry, on the other hand, is troubled by a lack of clear rules for determining what chemical uses are acceptable and what information should be gathered on chemical toxicity.

Difficulties with TSCA

TSCA represents a step away from legislative requirements to eliminate risk and a step toward balancing the beneficial and adverse consequences of chemical use, but the Act suffers from ambiguity compared to earlier legislation. The term "unreasonable risk" is used repeatedly in virtually all the key sections of the Act but is not defined clearly either in the Act itself or in its legislative history. Perhaps the closest approach to a clarification occurs in the following passage from the legislative history (1):

> In general, a determination that a risk associated with a chemical substance or mixture is unreasonable involves balancing the probability that harm will occur and the magnitude and severity of that harm against the effect of proposed regulatory action on the availability to society of the benefits of the substance or mixture, taking into account the availability of substitutes for the substance or mixture which do not require regulation, and other adverse effects which such proposed action may have on society.

> The balancing process described above does not require a formal benefit-cost analysis under which a monetary value is assigned to the risks associated with a substance and to the cost to society of proposed regulatory action on the availability of such benefits. Because a monetary value often cannot be assigned to a benefit or cost, such an analysis would not be very useful.

The first part of the passage calls for a balancing of the probability of harm and the magnitude and severity of that harm against benefits that might be lost by placing regulations on the chemical substance or mixture in question. The ambiguity of the passage is that the balancing process needed for the determination of unreasonable risk is not described. Rather, the second part of the passage is phrased negatively: The balancing process <u>does not</u> <u>require</u> a formal cost-benefit analysis in which monetary value is assigned to the cost and to the risk.

Given this guidance, how is EPA to reach decisions, and how can industry understand EPA's decision process so it can anticipate these decisions in planning its business activities? Economists, analysts, and spokesmen for the current Administration might assert that despite the caveat in the legislative history that formal cost-benefit analysis is not required, some sort of cost-benefit balancing ought to be used in the decision process. But the application of traditional cost-benefit methods to assessing the consequences of chemical regulation does not account for Although for a large number of chemical substances uncertainty. and mixtures there are grounds to suspect potential adverse effects on human health or ecological systems, it is rarely the case that the extent of these adverse effects can be estimated It is also often difficult to foresee the with any precision. economic consequences of a regulatory decision that will require a chemical to be removed from a major use or manufactured using an untried modification in the production process. Costs and benefits of regulation under TSCA will usually be uncertain. Yet the balancing process must be carried out, explicitly or implicitly, to reach decisions, both within EPA and within individual chemical companies.

If analysis is to be useful in assisting this balancing process, it must deal with uncertainty. How this can be accomplished involves a simple concept: the use of probability as a way of communicating judgment about uncertainty. This concept is common sense to many people. We often communicate using this concept about sporting events (e.g., the probability that the San Francisco Forty Niners will win next Sunday's football game), outcomes of elections (e.g., the probability that the Republicans will maintain control of the Senate in the next election), and weather (e.g., the probability of rain). In these situations the probability numbers serve as summaries of judgment about a multitude of complex factors. The judgments of political and sports experts and weather forecasters may be good or they may be poor. What probability provides is a way to describe uncertainties quantitatively so that we can discuss these uncertainties more precisely and incorporate them into our decision making.

Decision analysis provides a formal theory for choosing among alternatives whose consequences are uncertain. The key idea in decision analysis is the use of judgmental probability as a general way to quantify uncertainty. Decision analysis has been widely taught and practiced in the business community for more than a decade (2-4). It provides a natural way to extend costbenefit analysis to include uncertainty.

This paper will summarize briefly some work my colleagues and I at Decision Focus Incorporated have carried out for EPA to show how decision analysis might be used to assist decision making under TSCA (5). I will first briefly review the concepts of quantitative risk assessment and cost-benefit analysis to show how decision analysis fits with these concepts and provides a natural way of extending them. Then I will illustrate the approach using a case study on a specific chemical, perchloroethylene.

An Overview of Quantitative Methods for Assessment and Evaluation of Chemical Risks

The literature on analysis applied to assessment and evaluation of chemical risks is very extensive. There is wide agreement that quantitative analysis is useful as a framework for organizing information, for facilitating communication among the concerned parties, and for maintaining a separation between scientific information and the value judgments that are needed to provide a basis for decisions, but about which people may disagree. There is also wide agreement in the literature that quantitative analysis should not be expected to provide a mechanistic process or formula for selecting regulatory decisions. The responsibility for these decisions should remain with agency or company manage-The difficult tasks of making the value tradeoffs between ment. harm to health and economic impacts should come from top management, not from analysts or even worse, from assumptions buried in a computer program. Besides uncertainty and the difficulties of making tradeoffs between health and economic values, there are difficulties in dealing with distributional impacts: Who will receive benefits under a given policy to control a potentially toxic chemical, and who will receive the costs? Quite often, the benefits and costs occur to different groups and, sometimes, they occur at different times. How benefits or costs occurring far into the future are to be treated is another area of difficulty.

There are relatively few case studies of quantitative risk analysis and cost-benefit analysis applied to chemicals posing a risk to human health and the environment. Those available include a variety of reports from committees of the National Academy of Sciences/National Research Council that have employed quantitative analysis methods or discussed the use of such methods in decision making by EPA or similar regulatory agencies (6-11). While much of the analysis is commendable, there is little consistency in assumptions, methods, or even terminology. Within EPA's Office of Toxic Substances, it is difficult to identify and characterize quantitative analysis that might be used to facilitate the balancing process described in the TSCA legislative history.

There is broad agreement on what questions need to be addressed in carrying out quantitative analysis, but some disagreement on what to call the various steps of the process. The terminology I shall use below is somewhat arbitrary; my main purpose is to review the concepts.

<u>Hazard Identification</u>. Does a chemical substance or mixture cause adverse human health effects, such as cancer, birth defects, neurological damage, etc? While it would be useful to have an unequivocal positive or negative answer to this question, that is rarely possible. The usual situation is that similarity to chemicals known to be toxic, toxicological testing in cellular systems or whole animals, and/or epidemiological studies provide evidence for suspecting that a given chemical agent may cause adverse health effects.

Unit Risk Assessment/Assessment of Dose Response Relationship. Given that a chemical agent can induce cancer or some other adverse health effect in humans, what is the incidence of the effect for a given level of exposure or dose? This question can rarely be answered very precisely because for most chemical agents, human data are not available, and even when such data are available, it is usually very difficult to establish the doses of toxic chemicals to which people were exposed in an epidemiological study. The usual situation is that dose response relationships are estimated from animal bioassay data. EPA's Carcinogen Assessment Group (CAG) routinely produces such unit risk estimates for suspected carcinogens, using a standard set of statistical procedures and assumptions $(\underline{12}, \underline{13})$.

Exposure Assessment. What is the dose or the level of exposure of humans to the chemical agent? This question must be asked in the context of a given policy for controlling the uses and dissemination into the environment of a chemical agent. This control policy might be the present situation, a possible new regulatory policy, or a policy that a chemical manufacturer or distributor could choose to impose on his product. It is usually appropriate to assess the exposure of specific groups of people, which may depend on occupation, life style, purchases and uses of certain products, etc.

<u>Risk Assessment</u>. What is the incidence of the adverse health effects from the chemical agent? This crucial question for regulatory decision making might be answered by combining the <u>unit</u> <u>risk assessment</u> with the <u>exposure assessment</u>. As in the exposure assessment, the question must be addressed in the context of one or more specific control policies.

Risk Evaluation/Cost-Benefit Assessment. Given that risk assessment gives a means of estimating the change in the incidence of adverse health effects that will result from shifting to a new control policy, how are these health impacts to be balanced against the economic and other consequences that the policy change will have? This question involves making value judgments about health consequences, about economic consequences, and about the tradeoffs between them. These value judgments are very sensitive. There is great concern that using monetary values may be misleading, inappropriate, or unethical, yet there is little disagreement that the necessity of making decisions requires tradeoffs between health and economic consequences to be made, either explicitly or implicitly, in the decision process. Despite its difficulties, cost-benefit analysis is becoming increasingly important in regulatory decision making. Executive Order 12291 now requires that

federal agencies carry out an assessment of costs and benefits for proposed major regulations.

The assessment of the incidence of adverse health effects in risk assessment plus the evaluation or balancing of health and other consequences of control policies in risk evaluation can provide an explicit basis for decision making. If the risks posed by a chemical agent are judged to be unacceptable under the current control policy, a set of possible new control policies is developed, and the best of these is selected. Unfortunately, judgments about the acceptability of risks are apt to be highly controversial, and often there is bitter disagreement about the choice of the "best" regulatory policy. Much of this controversy comes from the methods that are used to deal with uncertainty in the risk assessment process. Conservative, worst-case assumptions are often used in agency risk assessments where precise predictions cannot be made from the available scientific data. For example, tumor response data from the most sensitive animal species at very high dose levels may be extrapolated using a linear nonthreshold model to assess the extent of human cancer that will result from low dose exposure. The two assumptions that the dose response relationship can be extrapolated from the most sensitive animal species to humans and from high doses to low doses using a linear model are each a mixture of scientific judgment and value judgment that it is better to overestimate human health impacts than to underestimate them.

Decision Analysis. An alternative to making assumptions that select single estimates and suppress uncertainties is to use decision analysis methods, which make the uncertainties explicit in risk assessment and risk evaluation. Judgmental probabilities can be used to characterize uncertainties in the dose response relationship, the extent of human exposure, and the economic costs associated with control policies. Decision analysis provides a conceptual framework to separate the questions of information, what will happen as a consequence of control policy choice, from value judgments on how much conservatism is appropriate in decisions involving human health.

A Case Study Application: Perchloroethylene

I now shall present a summary of an application of decision analysis to a specific chemical, perchloroethylene (PCE), a widely used dry cleaning solvent (also called tetrachloroethylene). Full details of this application are presented in an EPA report (5). Perchloroethylene was selected for us by the staff of the EPA Office of Toxic Substances as representative of chemicals on which EPA needed to make an unreasonable risk determination under TSCA. Our analysis was carried out as an exercise in methodology development and not to support any specific regulatory activities by EPA concerning perchloroethylene. <u>Health Effects of Perchloroethylene</u>. The basis for concern about perchloroethylene was primarily the result of an NCI bioassay, indicating that PCE induced hepatocellular carcinomas in B6C3F1 mice. A similar NCI bioassay on rats had given a negative result for PCE, as had a rat bioassay carried out by Dow Chemical. EPA's Carcinogen Assessment Group (CAG) had prepared a risk assessment based on the bioassay data (14). A meeting of the EPA Science Advisory Board Subcommittee on Airborne Carcinogens was called to review the CAG assessment as part of the determination of whether PCE should be regulated as an airborne carcinogen (15).

The CAG risk assessment included a unit risk estimate of the dose response relationship made following CAG's standard procedures (12). A review of the SAB transcript showed that alternative assumptions were viewed as plausible by the members of the Airborne Carcinogens Subcommittee. CAG had fitted its usual multistage model to the data using a 95% upper confidence limit, a procedure which leads to linear low dose extrapolation (16). Yet the SAB scientists noted evidence that PCE does not act directly on DNA, but indirectly through cellular toxicity. Given an epigenetic mechanism, a nonlinear dose response relation might plausibly be expected. Similarly, while CAG has used the B6C3F1 mouse data as the basis for its extrapolation, scientists at the SAB meeting argued that the rat was more representative of the human Finally, while CAG had extrapolated dose level from metabolism. animal to human using relative surface area, many scientific groups have recommended daily dose per unit of body weight as an appropriate scaling procedure.

Three instances were thus identified where there was uncertainty whether CAG's assumption was right, or whether there might be an alternative assumption that was more appropriate. The sets of assumptions are summarized in Table I. If one assumes for simplicity that for each of the three issues either the CAG assumption or the alternative assumption is correct, then we have eight possible combinations or cases, only one of which represents the correct dose response relationship. Using the methods of decision analysis, we might assign judgmental probabilities to the eight Such probabilities were used in our report, although the cases. numbers are strictly illustrative. The probability numbers are less important than the concept of using a variety of cases based on alternative plausible assumptions. As we shall describe below, the magnitude of the change in estimated cancer incidence from these changes in the dose response assumptions is nearly five orders of magnitude.

Exposure Assessment. Since perchloroethylene is used as a dry cleaning solvent and PCE vapor is easily monitored, estimates of PCE exposure are relatively straightforward to make from existing data in the literature. Table II summarizes the results. Based on NIOSH data (17), machine operators are exposed to an average of about 30 ppm of PCE vapor during the working day, equivalent to a

Table I. Dose Response Assumptions for PCE Case Study

Issue	CAG Assumption	Alternative Assumption
Choice of species	B6C3F1 mouse most sensitive species	Rat better represents human metabolism
Scaling of dose from animal to human	Ratio of surface area	Ratio of body weight
Low dose extrapolation	Multistage model (equivalent to linear with use of upper confidence limit)	Nonlinear response because of epigenetic mechanism (quadratic relation used as representative)

(Eight Combinations of Assumptions Possible)

Table II. Exposure Estimates for PCE Vapor

Classes of People Exposed	Number Exposed	Annual Average Exposure (µg/m ³)
Workers		
Machine Operators	17,000	45,000
Other Workers	130,000	10,000
Workers in Coin-Operated Facilities	33,000	6,000
Service Users		
Commercial Customers	50 million	5
Coin-Op Cleaners	25 million	10
Coin-Op Laundry	37 million	38
Urban Residents	95 million	0.2-4

continuous exposure of 45,000 $\mu g/m^3$. Other workers in commercial and industrial dry cleaners are exposed at a lower level, 10,000 $\mu g/m^3$, and workers in coin operated laundromat-dry cleaning facilities have an estimated exposure level of 6,000 $\mu g/m^3$. The number of workers exposed is based on projections from industry and census data.

Users of dry cleaning services are exposed when they visit the dry cleaning facilities and a lesser extent from cleaned clothing. As shown in Table II, the exposure levels are far lower than for workers. The highest level exposures are for customers using coin-operated laundry facilities in establishments that also have coin-operated dry cleaning machines. Urban residents are exposed to low ambient levels of PCE; the resulting exposure is less than for users of commercial dry cleaning services.

Control Policies for Reducing PCE Exposure. The amount of perchloroethylene vapor escaping from machines can be reduced by a variety of straightforward methods (18). Better maintenance of machines, replacement of leaky gaskets and seals, and other "housekeeping" measures might, on the average, reduce PCE losses by 40% at little cost. In fact, these measures could result in an annual saving of the order of \$10 million for the industry from reducing PCE purchases. A somewhat more costly option is the use of a carbon adsorption unit to recover PCE vapor from the air in the plant. Many plants already have these units, and if they were used throughout the industry, PCE losses and worker exposure would be reduced by an average of about 20%; exposure for service users and urban residents would be reduced somewhat less. Because of a credit for PCE recovery, the net cost of these units for commercial dry cleaners is very low. Even when coin-operated units are included as well, the estimated net cost for using carbon adsorption units throughout the industry is only about \$3 million annually. Putting coin-operated cleaners in a separate room from laundry facilities could reduce exposure for coin-op laundry service users by about 90%, at an annual cost of about \$5 million. Finally, more expensive dry-to-dry machines could be used in commercial cleaners, reducing machine operator exposure by a third at a cost of \$9 million annually.

Risk Assessment for Perchlorethylene. The above estimates for exposure, exposure reduction under controls, and human cancer incidence given exposure can be combined into a risk assessment. A summary of the results is given in Table III. If the CAG assumptions for the dose response relationship are used, the projected cancer incidence is about 350 cases per year, the majority of which occur in workers, with most of the remainder in service users. The lifetime probability of cancer for a machine operator is 23%, a high enough number that one would expect to see strong epidemiological evidence if these assumptions were correct. (Some epidemiological evidence does suggest an increased risk for cancer among dry cleaning workers (19, 20), but not an effect of this magnitude.) If all of the control options discussed above were implemented, expected cases of cancer would be reduced about two thirds under the CAG assumptions, with a somewhat larger reduction in incidence among service users than workers. We might conclude, however, that even with these controls PCE would remain a significant public health problem.

If instead of the CAG assumptions we use the alternative assumptions on the right of Table I, a very different picture

	CAG Assumptions (Present Exposure)	CAG Assumptions (Full Controls)	All Alternative Assumptions (Present Exposure)
Expected Number of			
Annual Cancers:	347	112	0.01
Workers	181	84	0.01
Service Users	163	26	10-5
Urban Residents	3	1.5	10-8
Lifetime Probability of Cancer:			
Machine Operator Coin-Op Laundry	0.23	0.08	3×10^{-5}
User Nearby Urban	2×10^{-4}	1×10^{-5}	10-11
Resident	2 x 10 ⁻⁵	1×10^{-5}	10-13

Table III. Summary of PCE Risk Assessment

emerges. The expected cancer incidence in that event is only one case per hundred years, a change of nearly five orders of magnitude. The lifetime probability of cancer estimate for a machine operator at 3 x 10^{-5} still is not negligible, because of the high level of the occupational exposure. The incidence and lifetime probability of cancer for service users and urban residents become negligible under the alternative assumptions.

Our report for EPA examines each of sixteen combinations of control options for each of the eight combinations of dose response assumptions. The resulting 128 scenarios correspond to the end points of the decision tree shown in Figure 1. For each of these 128 scenarios we worked out the impacts on workers, users, and urban residents in the same manner as shown in Table III.

Decision Analysis for Perchloroethylene. Decision analysis provides formal methods for selecting the best control decision in the face of uncertainty on the dose response relationship. Two sets of inputs are needed: (1) judgmental probabilities describing the likelihood of the assumptions and, therefore, of the eight dose response cases considered and (2) a monetary equivalent value per case of cancer avoided so that health and economic impacts can While an important output of the analysis is the be compared. recommended control decision, this recommendation depends on the input judgments about the dose response uncertainty and the value of avoiding a case of cancer. Sensitivity analysis can demonstrate how changes in these judgments affect the recommendation on the control decision. The insights from sensitivity analysis are

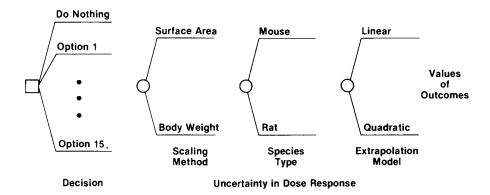


Figure 1. Decision tree for PCE control analysis. Key: □, decision; and ○, resolution of uncertainty.

usually the most important results from decision analysis. These insights identify which judgments are critical in the selection of the best decision alternative, and which judgments are less significant because over a wide range of values the same decision alternative remains preferred.

We might illustrate by briefly summarizing the insights from our illustrative calculations on perchloroethylene. As base case assumptions, we used the value of one million dollars per case of cancer avoided and probabilities of 20% to 50% for the CAG assumptions (implying 50% to 80% for the alternative assumptions listed on Table I). For these probabilities the expected incidence of cancer is a few cases to a few tens of cases per year, and the most costly control alternatives are not judged worthwhile. (If the three CAG assumptions were to be judged certain or very nearly so, then the analysis would indicate that all of the controls would be worthwhile, since the reduction in cancer incidence times a million dollars then exceeds the annual cost for adding each of the control options.) Among the control alternatives, the option of better housekeeping and maintenance is clearly preferred to the present situation because reduced PCE consumption provides net economic gains and the health impacts to workers, users, and urban residents are all reduced. Carbon adsorption units are the next most attractive option, because their net cost is low and they afford significant reductions in exposure and therefore potential decreases in cancer incidence. Locating coin-op dry cleaning machines in separate rooms may also be worthwhile if the probability of adverse dose response cases and the value of avoiding a case of cancer are judged to be high enough.

Another important set of insights from decision analysis comes from evaluating what it would be worth to resolve uncertainty before making a decision. By such means as larger scale bioassays and pharmacokinetics research it might be possible to resolve which of the eight sets of dose response assumptions is a reasonable approximation to reality. How much should we be willing to pay to obtain such information? For the perchloroethylene case study, our illustrative calculations show the value of the information to be in the range of one to four million dollars per year.

Insights and Conclusions

Is the risk of cancer posed by perchloroethylene "unreasonable" under the language of TSCA? No clear answer emerges from the illustrative analysis. Whether a risk is unreasonable is not a matter to be determined from scientific evidence on toxicity and exposure, but rather a determination that will hinge on judgment. We concluded from our calculations that the uncertainty in projected annual cancer incidence from PCE was nearly five orders of magnitude, and such large uncertanties in health impacts may be typical for many chemical agents.

The major insight from the perchloroethylene case study comes from the comparison between risks to the workers, the users of dry cleaning services, and the public that is exposed to low ambient levels of PCE in the air. If there is a significant incidence of cancer from PCE exposure, the effects will be predominantly among the workers rather than the users and the public. Calculations of the type we have carried out should be useful and illuminating not only to the regulatory agencies, but to individual company managements, workers, and consumers involved with a chemical agent. Many dry cleaning establishments are owned and operated by families, so that the management and the workers are the same people. Given that there is a suspicion based on animal bioassay evidence that PCE may induce cancer in humans, some dry cleaning plant owners may wish to reduce PCE exposure by means such as carbon adsorption units whether or not they are required by regulatory agencies to do so.

Our assignment for EPA was to apply quantitative risk analysis methods to the determination of risk for a particular chemical. The health risks for perchloroethylene turned out to be highly uncertain, but by using decision analysis concepts we were able to display this uncertainty in terms of alternative assumptions about the dose response relationship. Similar methods might be used to characterize uncertainties about human exposure to a chemical agent or about the costs to producers and consumers of a restriction on chemical use.

The methods of decision analysis provide a promising way to expand risk assessment and cost-benefit calculations to include The use of these methods in carrying out analysis uncertainty. for a specific chemical is not just a matter of crunching numbers through a formula; it requires skillful formulation of the analysis to reflect biological, economic, and other factors crucial to the regulatory decision. It may not be possible to establish a single number for the "probability of harm" as mentioned in the TSCA legislative history on the basis of hard scientific evidence; the "probability of harm" will usually be a reflection of scientific judgment, and the judgments of different scientists may often disagree. But probability is the right language for addressing the problem. An alternative to introducing probabilities is to make worst-case assumptions. Such assumptions may be useful in determining upper bounds on the health risks of chemical agents so that low risk chemicals can be eliminated as subjects for regulatory attention. But when the worst-case estimates are high, worst-case assumptions on the extent of health effect incidence may serve little useful purpose for regulatory decision making and only frighten people who find they have been exposed to the chemical agent in question. What is needed is a careful examination and synthesis of the scientific information available so that regulators, chemical companies, and the public can balance the probability of harm against the benefits to be lost if the chemical agent is controlled or restricted.

Risk assessment, cost-benefit analysis, and decision analysis do not provide an easy means of calculating the right answers for regulatory decisions under TSCA. These decisions are highly complex and uncertainties abound. What quantitative analysis can provide is a decision framework where the complexities and uncertainties can be set forth and examined by those with an interest in the decisions and the time and motivation to explore the issues in detail. To the extent that decision frameworks based on quantitative methods can provide insights and improve the process of communication and consensus building, they will have a useful impact in improving industry and government decision making under TSCA.

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Meeting the Needs of TSCA

Educating the Environmental Chemical Professional

R. L. PERRINE

University of California, Department of Environmental Science and Engineering, Los Angeles, CA 90024

> This article describes educational preparation particularly suited to the environmental chemical professional. As the decade of the 1970's brought growing concern for the environment, the UCLA program leading to the degree of Doctor of Environmental Science and Engineering was developed. Discussion of this program includes a rationale for education in the 1980's, discussion of the body of knowledge seen to underlie the professional field, and the curriculum by which knowledge is transferred to students. Unique elements include on-campus interdisciplinary project work, and a several year off-campus internship. Final discussion addresses accomplishments and difficulties experienced, and takes a look to the future.

The decade of the 1970's has seen mushrooming growth in concern for environmental health and the broader issues of the natural environment. This attitude is reflected in much legislation. Following incidents involving chemical pollutants, and recognition of chemical hazards and potential impacts of toxic substances, the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) was added to prior law. Objectives of TSCA and its impacts on the chemical industry are addressed elsewhere within this symposium. The present paper addresses education to meet the mandates of TSCA.

TSCA poses a new challenge to universities. While toxics are uniquely a chemical problem, their impacts extend to involve other disciplines as well. The life cycle of a toxic substance starts with chemical feedstocks. It continues through the myriad steps of manufacture and processing, through use, and ends only after end-product disposal. During this cycle there are many chances for "leaks" into the environment. Risks posed may appear primarily as risks to occupational safety and health, to general human health, or to particularly sensitive or important

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elements of some ecosystem. As a result it often will prove necessary to understand processes extending throughout the biosphere. Thus education to manage toxics must bring a number of disciplines to bear in parallel on any problem; educational needs are very broad, often interdisciplinary, but not beyond our ability to perceive, to plan, and to execute effectively.

The remainder of this paper will address the broader preparation of the environmental professional which fits needs derived from the several environmental legislative mandates, and which by its nature is particularly well suited to the specific needs of TSCA and the environmental chemical professional. The basis for discussion is a graduate level program in the application of environmental science developed over more than a decade at UCLA. Our experience suggests that if TSCA-like concerns are to continue and to be met, educational approaches such as this one will likely assume a growing importance.

A Characterization of Environmental Science Educational Needs

Representative toxic substance problems for which education is likely to be needed range widely. Example challenges include the fate of toxic and hazardous materials in the air environment, cost comparisons of treatment and disposal alternatives for hazardous materials, persistence and movement through the geohydrologic environment, effects of toxics on plants and animals, and so forth. Historically there has been no one profession both broad enough and focused to anticipate and understand the interactions among the disciplines involved (1). Each field has its quota of experts and their expertise can be called on to evaluate some environmental phenomena. However, there has been no expertise to draw together and integrate these fields.

By their nature, problems faced in environmental health, the natural environment, and resources are societal problems; the subject of public policy decisions. Experience suggests that in such situations findings as to fact and consequences must be established separately from and should precede policy decisions insofar as possible, thus gaining objectivity. However, the scientist seeking useful input soon realizes that the ultimate goal must be kept in mind at every step. It establishes the language in which results must be stated, determines priorities since problems greatly outnumber resources to solve them, and sets depth of appropriate investigation.

Another essential is that the work of the environmental professional is applied research; the use of more basic information generated by others. Different tools, philosophy and motivation are needed.

"Man seems to have at least two natural drives which put the impetus behind science. One is the need to <u>understand</u>; the second is, that once man understands he wants to see what he can do with that understanding. It's in the dichotomy that I see the difference between basic and applied research. Basic research is done to <u>understand</u>; applied research is done to <u>do</u>. The methods used may be the same. The difficulty and sophistication of the work may be the same. Both are important. Motivation is the only difference." (2)

In response to this need the University of California, Los Angeles, established a curriculum to educate the "Environmental Doctor". It is (formally) an Interdepartmental Program in Environmental Science and Engineering, and leads to the degree of Doctor of Environmental Science and Engineering. Its goals are different than those of other doctoral-level, environment-related degree programs, thus it uses somewhat different tools and educational environment. This presentation will document the program basis and accomplishments, all with particular concern for needs derived from TSCA.

Rationale for Education in the 1980's and Beyond

Needs in environmental education derive directly from the dozens of problem areas which need to be addressed and which all share certain charateristics. They are portions of a continuum. Study of a toxics problem may start at any point; for example, with the chemical process by which a toxic is first made, or with impact on aguatic ecosystems. But societally useful knowledge means learning about the entire continuum, not just details of a specialized portion. Environmental education directed toward toxic substances must extend beyond a chemical technology and its direct impact to the full range of impacts and options -- what will make them "safe", their internal and external costs, and the way they may fit into the fabric of society -- all such knowledge must reach decision-makers. The fact that such problems exist, and that past education has not prepared a generation well to deal with them, leads to the rationale behind UCLA's Environmental Science and Engineering.

As noted by Wolman $(\underline{3})$, educational institutions are continually asked to prepare those who will search for solutions of societal problems. Problems in the real world do not separate nicely into "disciplines". We do not see the "botany problem", or the "meteorology problem", or the "chemical engineering problem", as such. Rather, we see a minor by-product from a facility designed by a chemical engineer. Released, it is transported by meteorological processes, and becomes of concern because a botanist foresees ecological damage as a consequence of its downwind presence. Thus while disciplines and departments in universities are an administrative convenience and provide a perhaps needed foundation for specialized research and education, educational institutions also must address problems which do not fit nicely into present disciplinary units. For at least the last century science has been fissioning. Natural science has become physics, chemistry, mathematics and biology. Biology has further split into botany, zoology, molecular biology and microbiology. Even within microbiology there is a separation into virology and bacteriology, and further distinction between disparate environments such as the microbiology of soils and of fresh water aquatic ecosystems.

Perhaps this pattern has helped good teaching and research following the traditional reductionist approach $(\underline{4})$. This approach -- in which a component of a field of study is isolated, eliminating the influence of variables, and studied in depth -no doubt has contributed to much of the incredibly rapid pace of advance over the recent past $(\underline{5})$. However, there comes a point at which the organizational pattern and the accompanying learning experience no longer serves in an optimal fashion. A kind of tribalism is reinforced by disciplinary jargon and by treating those who venture from the territory of the tribe (or who intrude on it) as enemy aliens $(\underline{5})$. Further, a pattern perhaps useful for basic teaching and research gains a perhaps unearned intellectual significance as departmental administrative units certify themselves as "disciplines" (4).

No high quality research investigation is likely to be entirely free of the reductionist approach (5). On the other hand, successful problem-oriented research cannot be carried out in splendid isolation (4). There is a need to transcend reductionism as preparation for the major problems of our time, which require that information be integrated so that a complex system can be studied as a whole. An elegant analysis of this need has been published by Odum (6). Students must be attracted to working on these problems and exposed to the holistic view essential to their solution (5, 7). Without a deliberate effort along these lines, problems will be attacked in bits and pieces as graduating students -- clones of the faculty who have educated them -- hack away at the miniscule, exposed portion of a problem conveniently close to their graduate school specialty. Under such conditions problem solutions are not likely.

The Origin of UCLA's Environmental Science and Engineering

In 1969, with recognition of environmental problems emerging, the resources of the University were put to work for the benefit of the state of California. Essential characteristics of what was needed to resolve environmental problems became apparent from work addressing California's critical concern: air quality. These contrasted with basic research themes.

At this point Dr. Willard F. Libby, Professor of Chemistry and Nobel Laureate, stepped in. Dr. Libby had an idea -- perhaps not for the first time in his life -- but a truly heretical idea among those grounded in basic science. What he envisioned as essential to solve the inherently interdisciplinary problems of the environment was a <u>clinical kind of preparation</u>. Wellgrounded people, steeped in the basics, did not in his view need ever longer and more close range inspection of that disciplinelimited dot in the universe that represents the usual Ph.D. dissertation. No matter how skillfully executed, most such effort was not sufficiently broad-ranging to strike any real target, and so was ineffective in solving problems.

What Dr. Libby at this time properly perceived as missing was exposure to the <u>real world of problem-solving</u>; hence the need for a clinical kind of preparation. Thus the concept he proposed was to create the "Environmental Doctor" -- the competent generalist, reasonably skilled in all aspects of the environment and expert in some, with the perception and judgement to select those few critical parts of a problem essential to its solution, and the management skills to assemble a team to perform the actual solution effort.

This, then, became the task of a small core of UCLA faculty: to create an actual academic program which, by contrast with chance or the slowly accumulating scars of experience, would efficiently prepare people for the transition from the idealized, contemplative world of the university to the harsh and often political realities of environmental problem-solving. Program ideas were tested and the concept took on a recognizable structure. A program existed, even if in embryo form and only as a "bootstrap" operation, largely fueled by the after-hours effort of a number of the principals.

The Body of Knowledge and the Curriculum

The structure of the university, and its traditional delegations of authority and responsibility, are designed to assure the orderly transfer of knowledge to students who are then awarded a degree. Environmental Science and Engineering prepares professionals for environmental problem-solving by participation in a clinical interdisciplinary curriculum. Thus it differs substantially from related but conventional Ph.D. Programs. Our objective is to develop a high level of skill at the application of knowledge. To do so requires a delicate balancing of emphasis: a sufficient basic depth, plus a useful level of competence across a mix of disciplines.

Breadth of interest makes it quite likely that interdisciplinary program activities will tread on the toes of others. Territorial jealousies, and the fact that there is not yet welldefined, demonstrated theory or methodology for much of the work to be done combine to ensure a degree of controversy (8). Thus it is essential to ask what is the nature of learning appropriate to the degree, and how a proper level of achievement can be assured, and to find a satisfactory answer.

Body of Knowledge. (These sections derive from working

documents developed by the UCLA Environmental Science and Engineering Interdepartmental Committee as a response to recommendations of the Graduate Council growing from a six-year review of the Program.) The body of knowledge which should underlie the program is defined by the nature of the profession. Graduates can expect to be employed to assess impacts of alternative courses of action on the environment and resources, to recommend sound policy, and to devise means to implement policy once a decision has been reached. Typically, such activity will require quantitative synthesis of information from several traditional academic disciplinary fields. Towards this end, students must achieve a broad understanding of the environment and resources and acquire technical and integrative skills enabling them to function at the highest levels of responsibility.

Graduates are employed in technical assessment and management positions with governmental agencies, consulting, and industrial firms concerned with environment-related projects. Their rapid rise to relatively high-level positions is felt to be a result of a societal need for scientists with the advanced interdisciplinary training provided. The present focus, interdisciplinary training in the environmental sciences and their application, is a successful one. We see no reason for major change. This training has been met in the curriculum through courses, case studies, and problem solving opportunities.

Based upon evaluation of the more useful courses and the views of faculty, students, and graduates, the necessary body of knowledge associated with the degree can be defined and organized under three broad topics: <u>environment</u>, <u>environment</u> and <u>technology</u>, and <u>environment and society</u>. Subject matter is presently taught in courses in departments spread over the university. Often the most useful content is presented at an undergraduate or beginning graduate level, in serious but general courses designed for departmental majors.

The knowledge required under <u>environment</u> should be a thorough understanding of the characteristics of terrestrial, air, and water environments; of the biota; and of geological, biological, chemical, hydrological, and meteorological processes. This is a considerable body of knowledge. However, less is actually required of our graduates: specific knowledge of those characteristics and processes of the environment that are subject to disturbances (such as pollution), that represent resources that can be exploited, or that can serve as impediments to man's activities, together with the fundamental principles required to understand such processes.

Knowledge required under <u>environment and technology</u> is a compendium of the technical and analytical tools necessary to solving environmental problems, or to developing technology and policy that can avoid them. Required emphasis is on energy technology, particularly new energy sources; pollution control technology; environmental measurement, modeling, and analysis; the characteristics and sources of pollutants; and the pathways through which pollutants impact human health and the environment. The level of knowledge should be such that the individual could, in principle, use all necessary analytical tools. However, the major emphasis in the curriculum should be on developing a knowledge of the appropriateness of various methods and technologies, their strong points, and their shortcomings.

The knowledge associated with <u>environment and society</u> relates to the social and institutional factors relevant to environmental problem-solving. Emphasis should be on methods for assessment of social and economic impacts, legal constraints and processes, and implementation of policy.

Clearly, the total body of knowledge as presented above exceeds what might realistically be mastered in the first two years of preparation for the Doctor of Environmental Science and Engineering. However, considerable selectivity is possible based upon the needs and previous background of an individual. As an example, a thorough understanding of environmental toxicology, the chemistry of toxics and methods for their destruction, and related regulations would reasonably offset a superficial knowledge of air pollution.

From our experience, further refinement to establish a suitable minimum under the three topics above appears best accomplished by doctoral faculty committees selected for the individual, considering individual needs. The basic body of knowledge might be conceived as an understanding of the environment, its characteristics and processes, a knowledge of environmentrelated technology, an ability to use quantitative analytical techniques, and an appreciation for the social and institutional framework of environmental policy.

<u>Requirements at Entrance and the Curriculum Framework</u>. The curriculum is rather simple and straightforward. Formal entry requires a Master's degree in a field within the natural sciences, engineering, or public health. Preferably the Master's would include a strong, independent thesis effort. The intent of this requirement is to insure that the student have (and retain) competence within an established discipline. Students are carefully selected from applicants on the basis of prior performance, test scores, recommendations, and interviews, and thus with a goal of selecting synergistic combinations of intellect, aptitude, and motivation likely to lead to success.

In the four-year UCLA program, students successfully:

- o take additional courses in areas peripheral to the student's specialty in order to obtain the breadth necessary to successfully work on problems inherently interdisciplinary in nature,
- take additional courses in the Master's area as judged necessary to establish and retain an appropriate level of disciplinary competence,

- o take and pass a series of cumulative exams that stress current awareness and ability to respond,
- spend a year at the university as a member of an interdisciplinary team participating in an intensive problem-solving experience,
- o take an oral examination for advancement to candidacy,
- spend several years as an intern at an outside institution, gaining applied research experience under guidance,
- o demonstrate acquired competence during a one-term return period at UCLA, and
- o prepare written and oral reports to document the applied research experience for deposit in the archives at UCLA.

<u>Course Preparation</u>. No specific courses are required, but there are suggested courses through which requirements can be met. Subject matter is conveniently organized under the three broad topics as developed in the prior section.

TABLE I. BREADTH COURSES

The Environment			
Environmental Chemistry	Environmental Geology		
Air Pollution	Water Pollution		
Hydrology	Oceanography		
Meteorology	Ecology		
Soil Science	Microbiology		
Environment and Technology			
Air Pollution Control	Water Pollution Control		
Energy Resources and Technology	Risk Assessment		
Microbiological Control	Environmental Health		
Environmental Toxicology	Occupational Health and Safety		
Environmental and Pollution	Environmental Measurement		
Modeling			
Environment and Society			
Environmental Law	Environmental Impact Assessment		
Environmental Policy	Environmental Regulation		
Implementation	Environmental Planning and		
Resource Economics	Management		

Not all students take exactly the same program of courses. An individual's curriculum will be determined with the approval of his or her guidance committee and the graduate advisor. Areas of concentration, usually growing from an anticipated future, are encouraged.

For many subjects present courses in traditional departments deal adequately with needed content. For other subjects specially developed content is essential. Presently, students have been meeting the requirement for knowledge by about 5 selected courses that could be listed under the heading of <u>envi-</u> ronment, 4 to 6 under <u>environment and technology</u>, and 4 under environment and society. It is anticipated that there will be a modest growth in courses developed specifically for Environmental Science and Engineering, primarily to ensure that essential content is not neglected. Prerequisites include mathematics (calculus through differential equations and statistics), chemistry (through organic), biology, and earth science courses. All are preferably part of preparation prior to admission.

Literature as well as lecture courses can serve as a basis for the required body of knowledge and hence student preparation. A vigorous effort is made to encourage regular and current reading of the literature. The subject area is vast, and a periodicals bibliography is very useful.

The interdisciplinary team problem-sol-Problems Courses. ving experience -- the UCLA "Problems Courses" -- are a unique and essential part of the curriculum. Usually about three faculty from different backgrounds provide guidance, along with post-internship stage students, to perhaps six second-year doctoral students in a saturation teaching environment. The rationale is that leaders of problem-solving teams of the future should experience as early as possible the rigors of addressing open-ended problem statements and real-time decision-making. They also learn the demands that up-to-date, innovative use of more basic research places on problem solvers. Thus these unique courses require students to quantify and measure necessary parameters, perform critical evaluation, and edit and process technical and socioeconomic information. Finally, they require the effective communication of study results through a final report on a complex, policy-related subject, both to the competent lay-person and the technical specialist.

Subjects have included almost the full range of possible topics. In each case study, results have been pepared as a formal Environmental Science and Engineering report. A list of reports and sponsoring organizations is included as an appendix.

The benefit of problems courses is not limited to enrolled Environmental Science and Engineering students. As noted, environmental problems always involve policy, and this demands deep involvement of the social sciences. We have achieved this largely through participation drawn from relevant non-science disciplines, and thus a truly interdisciplinary team effort. The deeper probing made possible by an effort shared with basic science and engineering also is encouraged. A particular value to such efforts derives from the fact that realities of an uneven data or knowledge base frequently limit the problem-solving that can be accomplished. Transferring knowledge of the problem may encourage needed research in depth.

<u>Internships</u>. Much like problems courses, internships represent a unique element of the curriculum. Internships have proved easy to arrange and to monitor; participating institutions are included as an appendix. Interns each arrange for their own position though with a great deal of assistance from faculty, and (with a maturing program) from graduates and other interns. Internships are paid positions, with each individual expected to earn his keep. The qualities we seek in an internship are threefold:

- o a position which will challenge and provide responsibility for the intern,
- suitable interdisciplinary character to the problems addressed,
- an organization with an earned reputation for leadership, and which regularly addresses the more difficult and challenging of environmental problems.

Interns are regularly visited by faculty who discuss their work and progress with them and their supervisors, and maintain a continuing oversight until the internship requirement is met. Interns also submit quarterly reports on their progress.

Many internship positions have focused directly on toxic substances. Generally these have built on a particularly well suited undergraduate and Master's-level background, plus the oncampus broadening experience of the doctoral program, to select an opportunity for growth through toxics-related internship work which should lead to a productive, life-long career. Specific internship projects have addressed biological monitoring for toxics in aquatic environments, the establishment of chemical test methods particularly suited to environmental monitoring needs, occupational health risks, transport and bioaccumulation of toxics in the terrestrial environment, disposal methods for specific compounds and for classes of toxics, and regulatory needs to meet the requirements of legislation.

Perhaps the greatest value of the internship is that students often gain the opportunity to work on truly significant problems. On campus, their efforts would be limited by the ability of the campus infrastructure to address problems in a real rather than artificial manner. Arrangements would be much less flexible, and less readily adapted to meet the emerging needs of the individual. True, an on-campus base might always be seen to involve less risk and offer greater administrative convenience. However, in our experience, there is no preferred substitute for actual experience.

Concerns of Particular Importance

An innovative program, even while seeking solutions to recognized problems and achieving substantial success, raises a host of concerns in the minds of faculty and administrators. These must be openly addressed. Experience with other interdisciplinary programs has evoked similar concerns, and similar experience with their resolution $(\underline{3}, \underline{4}, \underline{5})$. Brief overviews of primary areas of concern are presented here.

Program Philosophy: To What Degree Should the University Respond to Society's Needs? There is a very basic question as to whether or not the university should directly prepare individuals to solve society's problems. A point of view is that the university does basic research and teaching well, with few alternatives available. It is seen as unwise to attempt to extend limited resources to address applied topics, where private and governmental agencies are active. It is argued that the university should provide a quality education in depth. If breadth should then be needed in a subsequent career, the argument continues that further preparation and experience can be obtained on the job. Wolman, though not in agreement with this thesis, has summarized the philosophical viewpoint succinctly: "the best generalist is a broken-down specialist" (3).

It is clear that those who support the UCLA Environmental Science and Engineering approach and many others do not agree. One reason is that attitudes developed early tend to persist throughout one's career (5). Thus those who as students have been deprived of a holistic view may strive ineffectually toward inappropriate and narrow goals, wasting scarce resources, and too-often remaining unaware of the greater accomplishment that might have been. This viewpoint is supported by evaluations such as that (regarding chemical engineers) of Metzner (9): "We are producing too few employable Ph.D's. Further, their education is frequently too narrow to quality them for the salaries which would make this degree economically attractive..."

<u>Curricular Questions.</u> There is a serious question as to what represents the proper balance between depth and breadth. An infinite variation in ratios is possible. Tension between advocates of different positions may always be a fact of life for any interdisciplinary program. If UCLA experience is a worthwhile guide, different proportions, but all in a middle band and built on a solid Master's-level foundation, may prove appropriate for individual students and their ultimate careers.

Organizational Structure and Support Base. Interdisciplinary efforts require cooperation beyond the usual unit boundaries. Mutual interests of diverse faculty must be brought into convergence. Perhaps more important, some administrative "home" must be found. No doubt a variety of alternatives, including unconventional ones, could prove suitable. For the past 20 years supradepartmental organizations have held a very important position in research. However, the traditional unit for teaching in the American university remains the department.

As noted by Roy (4), the world of the university generally presents a rather unimaginative picture. Reasons should be obvious. "Disciplines" are part of a continuum. In fact, separation is sometimes difficult. Portions of chemical and civil engineering, both addressing health-protective control technology, provide an example. Since no truly fundamental definition can be made, an operational one is used. With which units is "discipline X" connected? The answer is the "department of X". Thus a generally accepted "discipline" results when enough institutions establish roughly similar departmental administrative units. There is then a circle of recognized peers, able (and most willing) to compliment each other's scholarly discoveries. It is this circle that is essential for favorable review and thus the promotion of capable individual faculty.

Many arrangements are possible for an innovative, interdisciplinary program. A likely yet unfortunate response to changes within the campus establishment may be similar to that from the surgical insertion of a foreign organ into a human body -- a serious effort by the host to reject the intruding entity, regardless of its potential value or even necessity. At this juncture there is an absolutely critical need for academic statesmanship. The principal burden will fall on academic administrators: they will need to demonstrate leadership, to devise creative organizational relationships, and they must provide the essential resources (despite shortages everywhere).

Faculty Relationships. Faculty selected to guide a program and provisions for their future are critical to success. Qualified potential faculty are likely to ask several very important questions. How will promotion and tenure be decided? W111 leaving established disciplinary departments aligned with professional and scholarly societies jeopardize their future? For continuity, a core of faculty must be acquired and held together. These must not only cover the necessary range of expertise, but also have a continuing stake in the program's success -- allied but independent and non-responsible departments are all too likely at some future time to find that their current best interests lie elsewhere, and withdraw "firm" commitments. Thus it must be possible to successfully bring in qualified faculty, and give them the autonomy, accountability, and rewards needed for them to ensure the health and vigor of the program.

Research done is likely to be judged by traditionalists as not falling within the mainstream of a discipline, and not suited to its prestige journals. Therefore it is said to be of diminished quality. In point of fact, traditional disciplineoriented faculty have no basis for judging interdisciplinary research and often make no substantive effort to become informed (5). Thus it becomes particularly important for interdisciplinary groups to have their own departmental stature with regard to all matters of tenure and promotion.

<u>Student Relationships</u>. Establishing and retaining the identity of students in an interdisciplinary program can be a concern, deriving from reward structure, recognition, jobs, etc., in the outside world. If our experience is a useful guide, the student entering an interdisciplinary program of recognized high quality at a recognized institution is unlikely to face serious problems of identity in the future. On occasion it may be necessary to explain how and why the individual's particular preparation to become an "Environmental Doctor" came about and just what the qualifications actually mean. The greatest nuisance comes from some personnel officers and the simplicity of computerized thinking. They totally discourage a response not tailored to convention and the past.

An initial strong argument in support of requiring a Master's at entrance was retention of a recognized disciplinary foundation. In fact, this was thought of in part as security against future failure in the interdisciplinary world. No such "backstop" utilization has been necessary. Experience shows, however, that each individual needs to have experienced independent, intellectually demanding work at least at this level. There are also ties to professional societies and journals which should retain value throughout one's career.

UCLA students in Environmental Science and Engineering have established on-campus student organizations and an organization of program graduates. A number are active in emerging professional organizations such as the National Association of Environmental Professionals. The most valued relationship, however, is our well-established "family": program graduates and interns, other UCLA graduates who have worked on applied research projects with us, and including the employers of our graduates.

The Anticipated Future

By any pragmatic measure, the "Environmental Doctor" concept has become an established success. The future should appear bright. Unfortunately, concerns regarding acceptance of applied research and innovative education noted earlier apply in fact at UCLA as well as generally. There is a basic policy question which each institution must answer, and for which to obtain a forthright answer is not easy. The question is: where do we place the balance point in a choice between education that most conveniently adapts to the needs for understanding and research publications of university faculty, and education designed to meet the needs of society? One would hope that in a future which, despite temporary remissions, is certain to be constrained by resources and ecology, the balance point will permit survival of a healthy share of each. If so, the kind of program represented by Environmental Science and Engineering at UCLA will grow.

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Appendix I. Environmental Science and Engineering Applied Research Reports

AIR POLLUTION AND CITY PLANNING -- FINDINGS, RECOMMENDATION, EXPLANATION, also RESEARCH INVESTIGATION, Case Study of a Los Angeles District Plan. (1972) (Sponsor: U.S. EPA) FACING THE FUTURE; FIVE ALTERNATIVES FOR MAMMOTH LAKES, Report

and Summary. (1972) (Sponsor: National Science Foundation) ENVIRONMENTAL, TECHNICAL, LEGAL AND SAFETY ASPECTS RELATED TO FLOATING NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS OFF THE COAST OF CALIFORNIA.

(1973) (Sponsor: National Science Foundation)

WATER QUALITY AND RECREATION IN THE MAMMOTH LAKES SIERRA, Report and Summary. (1973) (Sponsor: National Science Foundation)

FUTURE ALTERNATIVES FOR THE SANTA MONICA PIER. (1973) (Sponsor: National Science Foundation)

SURFICIAL AND ENGINEERING GEOLOGY OF PART OF THE MAMMOTH CREEK AREA, MONO COUNTY, CA. (1973) (Sponsor: National Science Foundation)

MODELING LOS ANGELES PHOTOCHEMICAL AIR POLLUTION. (1975) (Sponsor: Dreyfus Foundation)

- POPULATION AND ENERGY IN LOS ANGELES; THE IMPACT OF DIFFERENT RATES OF GROWTH ON TRANSPORTATION, AIR QUALITY, HOUSING AND OPEN SPACE. Substudies include: TRANSPORTATION; IS THERE A CHOICE? IMPACT OF THE ENERGY CRISIS AND ESTIMATES OF FUTURE AIR QUALITY. THE CHANGING PATTERNS OF HOUSING DISTRIBU-TION. RECREATION DEMAND IN THE SANTA MONICA MOUNTAINS IN 1990. (1975) (Sponsor: National Science Foundation)
- WILDERNESS WATER QUALITY; BISHOP CREEK BASELINE STUDY, 1974. (1975) (Sponsor: Water Resources Center)

WASTE NUTRIENT RECYCLING USING HYDROPONIC AND AQUACULTURAL METHODS. (1975) (Sponsor: Rockefeller Foundation)

210

NON-POINT SOURCE WATER QUALITY MONITORING, INYO NATIONAL 1975. (1976) (Sponsor: U.S. Forest Service) FOREST. THE SULFATES PROBLEM: ITS EFFECTS ON THE ENVIRONMENT AND MAN. (1976) (Sponsor: Dreyfus Foundation) SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA OUTER CONTINENTAL SHELF OIL DEVELOPMENT: ANALYSIS OF KEY ISSUES. (1976) (Sponsor: Ford Foundation) UTAH COAL FOR SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ENERGY CONSUMPTION. (1976)(Sponsor: Scaife Family Charitable Trust) STUDY OF ALTERNATIVE LOCATIONS OF COAL-FIRED ELECTRIC GENERATION PLANTS TO SUPPLY ENERGY FROM WESTERN COAL TO THE DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES. (1977) (Sponsor: California Department of Water Resources) BACTERIAL WATER QUALITY IN WILDERNESS AREAS. (1977) (Sponsor: Water Resources Center) AN ASSESSMENT OF ELECTRIC POWER GENERATING OPTIONS FOR THE STATE

OF CALIFORNIA. VOLUMES I AND II. Report and Summary. (1978) (Sponsor: California Energy Commission)

POWER PLANT SITING ASSESSMENT METHODOLOGY. (1978) (Sponsor: Electric Power Research Institute)

DISPOSAL OR STORAGE OF COAL GASIFICATION WASTES IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA. (1979) (Sponsor: Scaife Family Charitable Trust)

INSTITUTIONAL BARRIERS TO WASTE WATER REUSE IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA. (1979) (Sponsor: Office of Water Research and

Technology)

WORKER HEALTH AND SAFETY IN SOLAR THERMAL POWER SYSTEMS. Substudies include: OVERVIEW OF SAFETY ASSESSMENTS. DATA BASE AND METHODOLOGY FOR THE ESTIMATION OF WORKER INJURY RATES. THERMAL ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEMS. ROUTINE FAILURE HAZARDS. OFF-NORMAL EVENTS. SOLAR PONDS. (1979) (Sponsor: U.S. Department of Energy)

CALIFORNIA'S NORTH COAST WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS: ANALYSIS OF INTER-AGENCY PLANNING AND TECHNICAL ISSUES (1980) (Sponsor: Ford Foundation)

ECOLOGICAL AND INSTITUTIONAL FACTORS IN COASTAL SITING OF A COAL-FUELED POWER PLANT AT ORMOND BEACH, CALIFORNIA. (1980) (Sponsor: Southern California Edison Company)

ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING FOR NEW TOWNS; EXPERIENCE AND SELECTED OPPORTUNITIES. (1980) (Sponsor: Royal Commission for Jubail and Yanbu, Saudi Arabia)

SITING OF AN INTERNATIONAL FACILITY FOR STORAGE OF VITRIFIED RADIOWASTE. (1981) (Sponsor: Electric Power Research Institute)

COMMUNITY APPLICATIONS OF SMALL SCALE SOLAR THERMAL ENERGY SYSTEMS. (1981) (Sponsor: U.S. Department of Energy)

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS IN SITING A SOLAR-COAL HYBRID POWER PLANT. Substudies include: ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT. AIR QUALITY AND METEOROLOGICAL IMPACTS. (1981) (Sponsor: U.S. Department of Energy)

THE POTENTIAL PRODUCTION OF AIR POLLUTANTS NEAR STPS RECEIVER SURFACES. (1981) (Sponsor: U.S. Department of Energy) OIL AND GREASE IN STORMWATER RUNOFF. (1982) (Sponsor: Association of Bay Area Governments, Oakland, CA). EVALUATION OF GREAT DESERTS OF THE WORLD FOR PERPETUAL INTERNATIONAL RADIOWASTE STORAGE. (1982) (Sponsor: Electric Power Research Institute)

Appendix II. List of Internship Organizations

The Aerospace Corporation ANCO Engineers Association of Bay Area Governments Battelle Memorial Laboratories Bechtel Corporation Boeing Engineering and Construction Booz-Allen Applied Research (U.S.) Bureau of Land Management California Air Resources Board California Department of Health Services California Energy Commission California Water Resources Control Board Committee on Resources, Land Use and Energy, State of California Assembly Congressional Research Division, Library of Congress Dames and Moore **EBASCO** Services Electric Power Research Institute Environmental Resources Group, Jacobs Engineering Environmental Science Associates, Inc. Eureka Laboratories Florida Solar Energy Center Form and Substance IWG Corporation James M. Montgomery, Consulting Engineers Jet Propulsion Laboratory KVB Engineering LA/OMA Project, Los Angeles County

Lawrence Livermore Laboratory Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (U.S.) National Bureau of Standards National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health Northern Energy Resources Company Oak Ridge National Laboratory Office of Planning and Research, State of California Office of Technology Assessment, U.S. Congress Pacific Environmental Services Project Concern International (The Gambia) The Ralph M. Parsons Company Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region, California Republic Geothermal Research and Development Associates Rockwell International Science Applications, Inc. Scandpower (Norway) Socioeconomic Systems Southern California Edison Company Systems Applications, Inc. Technology Service Company TRW, Inc. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency U.S. Geological Survey U.S. Navy (Energy and Environmental Technology) Wright McLaughlin Water Engineers

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Overall Costs and Benefits

J. CLARENCE DAVIES

The Conservation Foundation, Washington, DC 20036

The paper describes what progress has been made under TSCA in obtaining information about chemicals and in controlling chemicals that may pose an unreasonable risk. It also describes the direct and indirect costs of the act and explains why a quantitative comparison of costs and benefits is not possible. It suggests several ways to increase the benefits of the act and lower its costs.

In this brief essay I would like to do several things. I shall begin by explaining why the costs and benefits of TSCA cannot be calculated in quantitative, much less monetary, terms. I will then try to review what I perceive to have been the costs and benefits of the major sections of the act. Finally, I will propose a set of more general observations about the act which may point the way towards increasing the benefits and reducing the costs of toxic substances control.

Cost-Benefit Analysis

It is impossible to express the benefits and the costs of TSCA in dollar terms and then compare them. In samer times it would not be necessary to belabor this point, but there are now people who apparently will not get out of bed in the morning unless they are convinced that the dollar benefits of eating breakfast outweigh the dollar costs of removing the blankets.

Cost-benefit analysis is a useful analytical tool that in many cases can help decision makers to know what factors are involved in a decision and in some cases can give the decision maker some idea of the relative importance of the factors. It cannot do more than that in the realm of policy making.

There are a variety of reasons why cost-benefit analysis is so limited. It assumes certain judgments, such as the judgment that the existing distribution of purchasing power is

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ideal, which some of us are not comfortable assuming. It ignores certain essential aspects of decisions, such as who will bear the costs and who will gain the benefits, which cannot and should not be ignored. Its results are in most cases determined by assumptions which are inherently somewhat arbitrary, such as what discount rate is used. And finally, for the kinds of public health decisions discussed in this paper, there is never enough information to provide the kinds of numbers needed for cost-benefit analysis.

The lack of information is well illustrated by trying to examine the costs and benefits of TSCA. The major benefits of the act are the adverse health effects avoided by whatever actions are taken under the act's authority or because of the act's existence. But for many actions, such as voluntary testing by industry, we are not sure whether to attribute the action to TSCA's existence. We also are not sure how to relate such actions to reduced exposure to potentially hazardous chemicals. Insofar as exposure is reduced, we usually do not have any precise idea of the health consequences of such reduced exposure. And even if we knew the health consequences we would not know how to place a dollar value on them.

The range of uncertainty can be partially illustrated by a case study that The Conservation Foundation did last year of the use of Tris on children's sleepwear. Our purpose was to get some fix on quantifying the benefits of the TSCA PMN program. The number of cancer cases attributable to Tris was conservatively estimated to range between 12,600 and 25,200. Assuming 12,600 cases, \$100,000 as the value of a human life, and a discount rate of 10% compounded annually, the dollar value of the Tris-caused cancers was \$170 million. However, if we assume 25,200 cases, \$1 million as the value of a human life, and no discount rate, the dollar value is \$25 billion, a difference of more than two orders of magnitude. An even wider range of assumptions, producing an even greater disparity of final results, could plausibly have been used.

Information on TSCA costs is not much better than on benefits. It has been argued that the greatest cost of TSCA is the inhibiting effect it has on the development and manufacture of new chemicals. The information we have on this effect consists of several estimates of the decline in the number of new chemicals marketed since TSCA's passage. In my opinion these estimates are quite unreliable. But even assuming that they are reliable, we do not know anything about the dollar value or the economic importance of the chemicals not marketed. We assume that, whether measured by dollar sales or production volume or originality of the chemical, the chemicals not marketed were less important than the chemicals marketed. But we do not know whether the difference is large or small. Technically, to measure the dollar cost to society of TSCA's adverse impact on innovation, one would have to add the hypothetical <u>producer's</u> surplus of the chemicals not marketed (a number which cannot be calculated) to the hypothetical <u>consumer's</u> surplus of the chemicals not marketed (a number which cannot be calculated) and subtract from this sum the total of the producer's and consumer's surplus of the existing chemicals that would have been replaced by the new chemicals (a number which also cannot be calculated). In short, the cost side of TSCA is no more calculable in dollars than is the benefit side.

I have gone through this discussion to dispel any expectations that I might tell you what the quantitative ratio of TSCA costs to TSCA benefits is. I hope I have also suggested that any regulatory analysis that gives such ratios for any aspect of toxics policy belongs in the category of what Mr. Reagan calls "government waste and fraud." But of course the lack of information is a problem that plagues any kind of attempt to evaluate TSCA.

Benefits of TSCA

The two major goals of TSCA, and thus the two major types of benefits it has for society, are preventing unreasonable risk from chemicals and obtaining adequate information about the risks of chemicals. These two goals are inextricably related. There is little benefit in obtaining adequate information unless one is prepared to act on the information and, conversely, action to prevent unreasonable risk depends on the availability of adequate information. Since by definition it is not worthwhile to try to separate things that are inextricably related, I will discuss the benefits of TSCA primarily in relation to new and existing chemicals, rather than in relation to information and risk prevention.

<u>New Chemicals</u>. There are several ways one might try to estimate the benefits of the TSCA pre-manufacturing notification (PMN) program. None of them are satisfactory.

First, one could observe that in the 2-1/2 years that the PMN program has been in effect there have been no known cases of people dropping dead because of a new chemical. This is not a very informative observation, however, because it is more a comment on the long latency period of chronic effects and our inability to detect chemical problems than it is an observation about the lack of problems with new chemicals. This is not to say that chemicals with adverse effects have gone through the PMN process--only that we would not know it if they had.

A second approach to measuring benefits would be to look at changes that have occurred because of formal action or the threat of such action under TSCA Section 5. Of the more than 1,000 PMNs submitted since July 1979, nine have been subject to Section 5(e) orders and several others were withdrawn before a 5(e) order was prepared. According to the Office of Toxic Substances, EPA "has successfully negotiated voluntary controls or further data" for approximately 60 additional chemicals. (1, p. III-3) We do not know whether the dozen or so chemicals withdrawn from the PMN review would have posed an unreasonable risk or, even if they had, whether the risk would have been any more worrisome than the chemicals they would have replaced. The nature of the voluntary measures taken on the 60 chemicals is lost in the murky waters of confidential information, so there is no way to ascertain the benefits of these actions either.

A third benefits measure would be the extent and nature of voluntary actions taken by manufacturers. We have no information or even basis for guessing whether new chemicals that would have been manufactured five years ago are now voluntarily shelved because of potential risks to health or the environment. Certainly there is greater awareness of such considerations within most firms and also a greater ability to do toxicologicl and other relevant testing within many firms. It is not clear, however, what the testing resources are used for. The absence of data submitted with the PMNs indicates that the testing is not done on new chemicals before the PMN Whether testing is done at a later stage in the stage. development of a new chemical, is done mostly on existing chemicals, or is not done at all on the company's own products Carl Umland of Exxon is chairing a is not clear to me. committee for the Chemical Manufacturers Association to develop measures of voluntary compliance with TSCA. We badly need such measures, but it is important that they be credible and informative and not lend themselves to charges of being industry propaganda.

To summarize the benefits of TSCA with respect to new chemicals, there is a bit of evidence that indicates that unreasonable risk may have been averted from a few new chemicals, although the evidence is slim. The most solid evidence of the effect of TSCA on obtaining more adequate information about new chemicals, namely the data submitted with the PMNs, indicates that the act has not had any significant benefits in this respect, except to give us, for the first time, a definition of the universe of new chemicals and a way of tracking them if such tracking seems desirable.

Existing Chemicals. The benefits of TSCA with respect to existing chemicals can more easily be divided between obtaining adequate information and controlling unreasonable risk. Three parts of the act relate primarily to obtaining information about existing chemicals: the testing provisions of Section 4, the substantial risk notices under Section 8(e), and the information collection and record-keeping requirements under the other subsections of Section 8.

To date, no information has resulted from the Section 4 authority to require industry to test specified chemicals if certain criteria are met. No test rules under Section 4 have become final because of several interrelated reasons. Between 1976 and 1980, OTS construed the Section 4 criteria as being extremely difficult to meet, requiring among other things a comprehensive review of the literature on the chemical under consideration. Inordinate amounts of time and money were spent trying to compile the necessary information. A court suit brought by the Natural Resources Defense Council resulted in OTS re-thinking its assumptions and agreeing to an accelerated schedule for proposing testing rules. But the emphasis was on proposing rules, so making the rules final became secondary. The new administration has abandoned legally binding rules altogether, putting the emphasis on voluntary testing by industry. Whether the voluntary approach will be effective remains to be seen.

Section 8(e), which requires industry to notify the EPA Administrator if it obtains information indicating that a substance presents a substantial risk, has been a fertile source of information about chemical hazards. More than 400 substantial risk notices have been filed. However, the connection between information and action is unclear with respect to the notices. I do not know of any action, either regulatory or voluntary, by either industry or EPA, that has been taken as a result of an 8(e) notice. Undoubtedly, there been some industry actions. The apparent lack of have attention by the government is more troublesome, and the recent "100-day report" by OTS identifies the need to make response to 8(e) notices a matter of higher priority.

TSCA contains several other important Section 8 of information-gathering provisions. The only one that has been implemented is the initial inventory of existing chemicals required by Section 8(b), but the experience with the inventory is sobering and instructive. A number of people, myself included, fought hard to have EPA collect more information from in manufacturers than simply the names of the chemicals commerce. In retrospect, we won the battle but lost the war. Information about production volume and sites was collected, but the information processing ability of the agency could not The data are sufficiently confused manage the data received. so as to be practically useless. Two lessons can be learned from this experience: first, that the government needs to become more skillful in collecting and processing data; second, that there is always a tendency to ask for more data than can be constructively used.

The current regime in EPA seems to need no reminding about the second lesson. In an effort partially motivated by the desire to reduce the amount of incoming information it has sharply narrowed the purposes for which information will be collected. One of the basic themes of the 100-day report is the adoption of a sort of triage strategy which gives priority only to information collection efforts required by law or political necessity. Attempts to identify new problems or to collect information to establish overall priorities among potential chemical risks are not likely to be pursued.

For those of us who are impressed by how much we do not know about chemical risks, this narrowed focus is disturbing. It also surrenders what should be one of the main benefits of TSCA, the authority to comprehensively review the universe of commercial chemicals and to establish priorities. However, the narrowed focus is understandable and probably sensible if one accepts the condition of reduced resources available to OTS. Under the rule of Reaganomics, looking for new chemical problems is akin to complaining about the lack of good French restaurants in San Salvador. If survival is in question some desirable goals must be sacrificed.

To summarize, there have been some benefits of increased information about existing chemicals as a result of TSCA. although the benefits have been much less than might be For the first time we have a list of the chemicals expected. commercially manufactured in the United States. The substantial risk notices have provided some increased information and have given us a regular system for alerting the government and the public to possible new hazards. Testing of existing chemicals by industry has increased somewhat and is being further prodded by voluntary agreements under Section 4.

Efforts to use TSCA to actually control unreasonable risks of existing chemicals have been almost non-existent. The statute itself banned the manufacture anđ use of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) except for totally enclosed uses or uses that the EPA Adminstrator found would not pose an unreasonable risk. As interpreted by EPA this ban affected only about 1% of the uses of PCBs. Marking and labelling rules for PCBs may have had some effect in reducing the amount of PCBs entering the environment, but the effect is insignificant compared to the amount of PCBs already in the environment. For the past several years there has been no domestic manufacture of PCBs and probably no importation of them.

OTS has focused its control efforts on two other chemicals in addition to PCBs. Working in conjunction with the Food and Drug Administration, EPA used TSCA's Section 6 to prohibit the use of chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs) as propellants in nonessential aerosol products. An advanced notice of proposed rulemaking under TSCA outlined approaches for restricting other uses of CFCs, but the attempt to deal with other CFC uses has been abandoned by the Reagan Administration.

Much effort was devoted to considering controls on various uses of asbestos, and in December 1979 an advanced notice of proposed rulemaking solicited views on such controls. No rules were ever proposed, and the new administration does not seem to have much interest in dealing with asbestos hazards. A voluntary program to identify asbestos hazards in schools resulted in less than half the schools conducting inspections. A rule making the voluntary program mandatory has recently been promulgated.

Trying to analyze why there has been so little control action under TSCA would require a whole separate paper. The reasons include very conservative legal views about the scope of TSCA in relation to other laws, a tendency in OTS to prefer analysis to action, opposition by industry to any controls, and the legal, bureaucratic, and political obstacles within the government that make taking any action a Herculean task. For the purposes of this paper, it is sufficient to say that there have been almost no significant benefits of TSCA resulting from controls on existing chemicals.

Costs of TSCA

There are two types of direct costs of TSCA. One is the cost to the Federal Government of administering the act. The federal costs are not separately identified in the federal budget but were probably around 80 or 90 million dollars in 1981. The other direct costs are those borne by industry. The industry costs of complying with TSCA are likely to be much larger than the government costs, although no very accurate figures are available. The 1980 Annual Report of the Council on Environmental Quality estimated that the total 1979 public and private costs for complying with TSCA were \$300 million.

The indirect costs of TSCA may well be more important than the direct costs. In particular there has been a good deal of concern about the effect that TSCA has had on innovation in the chemical industry.

It is impossible to clearly separate the effects of TSCA from a multitude of other factors which contribute to changes in innovation or the economic condition of the chemical industry. Changes in the tax structure or the inflation rate, for example, have much more impact on innovation and industry R&D than does TSCA. But the effects of TSCA cannot be isolated from these other factors.

Several industry-sponsored studies have tried to estimate the extent to which innovation in the chemical industry has The Chemical Manufacturers declined since passage of TSCA. "The quantifiable costs of Association has stated, PMN requirements, including completing the PMN form, may themselves account for а 54 percent decline in new chemical Since a decline in new chemical introductions introductions. of between 71 and 87 percent may have aleady occurred as a result of PMN requirements, the direct costs of the PMN process are apparently having a very substantial impact and must be

considered at least as important as any other factor." (2, pp. 25-6)

The methodology used by these innovation studies is not fully reliable. In fact we will probably never know how many new chemicals were marketed annually prior to 1976 because no one kept track of the number and there is no way that it can be reconstructed retrospectively. But any reduction in innovation is a cost to society that must be considered.

How much of a cost TSCA has imposed by inhibiting innovation is not known. Not only don't we know how the number of new chemicals after TSCA compares to the number before TSCA, we don't know how to value the chemicals that were not manufactured. The social and economic importance of new chemicals varies quite widely, and it is reasonable to assume that the chemicals that were not manufactured because of TSCA costs were on average less valuable products than the chemicals that were manufactured.

In July 1982, EPA, responding to several petitions from the chemical industry, proposed exempting several broad categories of chemicals from the PMN requirements of TSCA. The exemptions would cover more than half the chemicals which have been subject to the PMN requirement. To the extent that TSCA has had an adverse effect on innovation in the industry, most of this effect would be eliminated if the exemption proposal becomes final. Of course the potential effectiveness of the PMN review would also be significantly reduced.

Reduced innovation may not be the only indirect cost imposed by TSCA. The act may, for example, encourage concentration in the chemical industry because compliance with its provisions will be more difficult for small manufacturers than for large manufacturers. It will be very difficult to detect and quantify the impact of TSCA on such changes, but they should not be ignored.

Are the Benefits Worth the Costs?

It would be very helpful to have a neat quantitative balance sheet to answer the question of whether the benefits of TSCA are worth the costs. But, as I tried to show earlier, such a balance is not possible.

Given the uncertainty on both the benefit and the cost side, arguments about where the balance lies are probably a waste of time. It would be far more fruitful to agree on the basic philosophical premise of TSCA and then go on to explore ways in which the benefits of the act can be increased and the costs lowered.

The philosophical basis of TSCA, as I see it, is that the public, as represented by the government, has a legitimate interest in industry decision-making about chemicals--in deciding, for example, that new chemicals that are an unreasonable risk should not be marketed, or that existing chemicals that may pose an unreasonable risk should be tested.

I have stated this premise rather starkly so as not to conceal its implications. It implies, among other things, that government has a legitimate role to play as a representative of the public, and it implies that dealing with the toxics problem cannot be left entirely to the free market. If we can agree on these premises then we can go on to discuss ways to improve the act so as to improve the ratio of benefits to costs. If we cannot agree on these premises then we are reduced to a basic philosophical difference which will eventually be settled by determining which side has the most political power.

I shall assume that there is agreement on the basic premise of the act and proceed to explore some ways in which it might be improved. I will try to do this by proposing some generalizations about the way TSCA has worked which I hope will further illustrate some of the costs and benefits but which will also point the way toward future approaches to regulating toxic substances.

Implementing TSCA

First, I would say that some aspects of TSCA are inefficient, in other words the costs clearly exceed the benefits. The PMN program provides some examples. Don Clay, in the 100-day report, has stated that "the PMN program as it is now conducted is not completely adjusted to the realities of commercial chemical development." This lack of adjustment produces some inefficient results. It generally does not make sense, for example, to review PMNs for chemicals which will never be commercially marketed, but at least some of the PMNs We need to examine the whole are in this category. implementation of the PMN program to reduce the time spent on low-risk chemicals, to improve the information obtained on potentially high-risk chemicals, and to develop reasonable The 100-day report follow-up procedures for new chemicals. represents a good start at examining these questions.

Second, some aspects of TSCA, at least as currently interpreted, may be unworkable. For example, the law has been used in only a very limited way to regulate existing chemicals. We need to explore the extent to which this limited use is due to problems in the statute itself or to other reasons, and, to the extent the problems are statutory, amendments to the law should be considered.

Third, voluntary compliance is more efficient than regulation, but voluntary compliance will not be achieved unless the possibility of regulatory action is real. Any law is dependent for its effectiveness on voluntary compliance, and during the Carter Administration we had continuous demonstrations of the cumbersomeness of trying to rely on regulation. But total reliance on voluntary compliance will be equally ineffective, because if voluntary compliance were the only answer needed the law would have been unnecessary in the first place. If an action is not in a person's self-interest some kind of additional incentive is needed. Regulation can provide that incentive.

Fourth, one of the benefits of TSCA is to provide a sort of "due-process" for both industry and the public. For the industry this means that there will not be a trial by press release for suspect chemicals. The act provides an orderly and predictable process for deciding whether chemicals pose an unreasonable risk. For the public, the due process involves not being excluded from decisions involving chemical risks. It I think, that the public has a right to monitor means, voluntary agreements with industry and that there must be safeguards to ensure compliance with such agreements. If voluntary agreements are to be an adequate substitute for regulations then they must have the same due-process safeguards as regulations. For example, they must assure public access to the information developed under voluntary testing programs. If such safeguards are not provided, voluntary agreements will simply lend support to those who now view EPA as the Industry Protection Agency.

Fifth, the information aspects of TSCA must be closely related to the control aspects, whether control is under TSCA, under other laws, or voluntary. The costs of collecting information can be quite high. The benefits to be gained from collecting it should be known with some precision before the costs are incurred.

Sixth, many, probably most of the key questions under TSCA are not scientific, at least in the sense that there is no agreement among reputable scientists about the answers. This is not a tactful observation to make to scientists, but I think it is important to understand if major mistakes in implementing the act are to be avoided. The key questions, while they are scientific in the sense of being potentially verifiable by empirical observation, are in practice and reality policy questions. How many animal tests provide satisfactory evidence of carcinogenicity, given the state of current scientific understanding, is not primarily a scientific question. It is a policy question about how much risk society is willing to tolerate, and thus society as a whole, not just scientists, are entitled to a voice in arriving at the answer.

Some of these statements lend themselves to clear lowered or benefits conclusions about how costs can be increased. Others are more complicated and will require ingenuity to develop improved ways of doing things. But I think that they can be used as a springboard for improving the implementation of TSCA, for maximizing the benefits to all Regulatory reform can be made to work for both parties.

industry and the public. To make it do so is the real challenge we face.

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RECEIVED September 18, 1982

Summary

GEORGE W. INGLE

Chemical Manufacturers Association, Washington, DC 20037

Perhaps the major conclusion of this symposium is that there are so far no pronounced and unequivocal impacts of TSCA on society and the chemical industry. For several reasons, including incomplete establishment of required regulations by EPA, and the subsequent time-lags for compliance with these regulations, and establishment of means to monitor their effects, further time will pass before these impacts will be significant. Even for the long term, when all regulations will have been put in place and implemented, the complex interaction of TSCA with one or more of the twenty-odd other federal laws concerned with control of chemical compounds will mute the impacts of TSCA itself.

It follows that the next, or third, symposium on this topic might best be held five years later, in 1987, rather than continue the pace of meeting roughly every two and one-half years, as was the case for this second symposium.

This is not to say that there have been no evident effects. The sixteen presented papers described a wide variety of effects. Some of these were well documented. Still others were considered largely speculative, awaiting the accrual of experience to determine their significance.

Many of these concerns are expressed in the last paper, given by Dr. J.C. Davies, who had much to do with the report of the 1970 Council of Environmental Quality. This report was the initiative which, in turn, led to enactment of TSCA, six years later. From this perspective, his survey of the overall costs and benefits of TSCA is meaningful. Because impacts of TSCA on human health cannot be identified accurately and certainly not quantified well, and one negative effect -- that on innovation in the chemical industry, cited by several speakers -- cannot be monetized accurately, only a qualitative evaluation of TSCA is possible now. The costs of notifying new chemical substances prior to their manufacture, aside from uncertainty as to EPA's requirements, were described an an impediment to innovation. Several suggestions were made to reduce these costs bv sharpening focus on the fewer higher-risk new chemicals and their commercialization after notification, and reducing concern low risk chemicals. Similarly, costs for collecting the for information required by TSCA need to be reduced by concentrating

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on that portion of demonstrated value. Such evaluation can rarely be precise. Regardless, since the question of how much risk will be tolerated by society is more broad policy than science per se, such analyses must continue if TSCA's implementation is to improve and benefits are to be optimized for all concerned interests.

The speakers were selected to represent views of the chemical industry and one of its major trade associations, the regulatory agency (EPA, Office of Pesticides and Toxic Substances), an international law firm and consulting contractors serving industry and/or EPA, a major university and one centrally positioned environmental group. Thus, differences of views were expected and were evident. As such, these views should appeal to the broad spectrum of American Chemical Society members.

Eight chapters presented observations and conclusions from representatives of major chemical manufacturers, in addition to a ninth from their trade association, the Chemical Manufacturers Association. The first of these, by Nalco Chemical Company's E.H. Hurst, surveyed EPA's accomplishments and problems, and the industry's responses over the five years since the effective date of TSCA, January 1, 1977. TSCA's aim to fill the gaps among the existing laws controlling selected categories or uses of chemical substances, and to identify and eliminate unreasonable risks due to chemicals, was stated. Even more important was TSCA's "balancing" theme, to reflect economic factors, and social benefits of chemicals in reducing their risks. At the same time, Congress did not define "unreasonable risk" or seven other gradations of risk mentioned in TSCA, but left this difficult task to EPA.

In addition to summarizing very briefly the scope of each major section of the Act, E.H. Hurst contrasted the selfimplementing sections that became effective immediately and those sections with later timetables for EPA's rule-making and implementation. In the first class are Sec. 8(e), notices of "Substantial Risks," and Sec. 5, "Premanufacturing Notices" of intent to manufacture or process a new chemical substances. Over 400 Sec. 8(e) notices and some 1200 "PMN's" under Sec. 5(e) have been sent to EPA -- substantial evidence of compliance.

In the second category, that of rule-making by EPA, the point was made that, under the Carter Administration, many of these proposals were judged by industry to exceed congressional intent, and to be unworkable in many cases, or workable but costly and ineffective. One example of this thinking is the resulting trend reported in research and development -- to restrict those activities to existing substances to avoid the extra costs and burdens of premanufacturing notification of new substances. This general position was analyzed in substantial

17. INGLE Summary

detail by S. Davis, Esq., who described "Chemical Industry Initiatives to Modify TSCA Regulations" to achieve compliance with the statute. This account was drawn from the Chemical Manufacturers Association's publication, "The First Four Years of The Toxic Substances Control Act."

E.H. Hurst's overview introduced several themes pursued by other chemical industry speakers. The Dow Chemical Company's E.H. Blair analyzed the problem of setting priorities for testing the 55,000 existing chemicals listed in the TSCA inventory for their effects on health and the environment. Resources for such testing are not unlimited. A systematic classification was made of these substances by production volume. The 9.5% of these substances which account for 99.9% of reported production were divided further into categories such as organic, inorganic, and polymeric.

The commodities among these substances generally have reasonably complete data for health and environmental effects, although data for certain effects may be missing. For smallervolume organic chemicals, little or none of these data is available. For those chemical compounds in use for decades, major health and ecological effects would have been published had they been observed in manufacture or use. It was shown that the considerable testing resources throughout the world are dedicated by national or private groups to testing those substances which would be expected to pose risks to health or to the environment. Still, in the United States, with existing screening and case-by-case selection systems, such as that used by the Interagency Testing Committee established under TSCA's Sec. 4, it was forecast that five to ten years of such effort will be needed to fill adequately identified gaps in required information.

TSCA has given further impetus to an orderly testing of existing chemical substances, largely by their manufacturers and generally on a shared-cost basis. EPA's H.M. Fribush showed how such evaluations, and other reporting requirements of TSCA, for metal-working fluids confirmed their contamination with tumorigenic nitrosamines. New water-based formulations, avoiding nitrate rust inhibitors and, instead, using new multifunctional additives, consequently have been developed.

This type of constructive impact of TSCA was viewed somewhat differently by Exxon Chemical Company's C.W. Umland. His review of nearly three years of premanufacturing notification cited evidence which suggests substantial disruption of new chemical development and introduction to the market. This disruption was traced to higher research and development costs at an economically vulnerable point in the life cycle of innovative products. A more appropriate balance between opportunity for economic viability and protection from unreasonable risk for innovative chemicals is needed. Such improved innovation would be expedited by exemption from notification of well defined, low-risk categories of new substances. Essentially, the same argument was made by Muskegon Chemical Company's J.R. Yost during this symposium. The smaller company frequently makes a major contribution to the flow of new compounds, but is affected disproportionately by regulation in general, and TSCA's Sec. 5 on premanufacturing notification in particular. A sharper focus on the higher-risk chemicals was seconded.

EPA's D.G. Bannerman reviewed these impacts on the market introduction of new chemicals. He summarized EPA's experience and analyzed the classes and types of new chemicals, company size, market areas, and, among other data, the number of notified chemicals actually reported to be commercialized. He stressed a new joint industry-EPA program to assist the smaller chemical companies to comply with TSCA, especially with premanufacturing notification. This will minimize negative impacts on product innovation without reducing the effectiveness of EPA's assessment of risks of new chemicals.

These specific, and other broader, concerns in corporate compliance with TSCA's requirements were discussed by Diamond Shamrock Corporation's D. Harlow. He described how corporate structures and procedures, including those for research and development, for companies of all sizes, have been impacted by TSCA. These impacts are generally positive in that they reflect greatly increased awareness, resources and responsiveness to questions of chemicals' effects on health and environment. These benefits are seen to be in balance with their costs, expressed in the increased costs of products and services.

One particular area of this response is the management of information required by TSCA. Monsanto Company's C. Elmer and J.R. Condray itemized these requirements, and reviewed the status and implications of each. Some unanticipated benefits derived from the mandated burden were emphasized. EPA's requirements for information are not yet complete: further growth is expected. While EPA's Chemical Substances Information Network (CSIN) is recognized as valid in concept, there is concern that its scope may be expanding that originally envisioned for information submitted to EPA under TSCA. In addition, attention must be given to the identification and maintenance of the reliability level of the information reported, stored and extracted for use under TSCA.

One continuing problem area in management of this and similar data required by other national systems is their confidentiality. Procter and Gamble's J. O'Reilly presented a perspective on this issue, which is dealt with explicitly by TSCA's Sec. 14 and has so far been managed well by EPA. Problems are arising in

17. INGLE Summary

the differing treatment of confidentiality by other nations concerned with similar controls of chemicals within the jurisdictions of the European Economic Community (EEC) and the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development(OECD). Aside from troublesome differentials in concepts and procedure, there is the concern that denial of protection of trade secrets elsewhere will weaken their security under USA laws and regulations. A proposal was made by Mr. O'Reilly to adopt some of TSCA's procedures in other countries' rules, to obtain greater uniformity in protecting justified confidentiality worldwide.

The protection of trade secrets is only one of the differences among the increasing number of national laws controlling chemical risks. B.Biles, Esq., described these variations among the U.S. and corresponding European laws. These laws are in various stages of development in compliance with the Sixth Amendment to EEC's 1967 Directive on classifying, packaging and labeling dangerous substances. The term "harmonization" is used often to describe the goal of efforts to reduce these differences and the resulting burden of stifled innovation, non-tariff barriers to international trade, and inefficiencies in allocating scarce scientific, technical resources of government and of the chemical industry. Biles opined that it is unlikely these differences will ever be reconciled by a common approach to regulating new chemicals. Nor will major multilateral agreements be reached on fundamental regulatory issues. Rather, accumulating experience -- which is relatively short in Europe -- including responses to domestic and intra-EEC economic and political factors, will "fine tune" these laws through serial regulations, policy statements and administrative decisions. These changes may produce greater consistency. The desire for harmonization itself will not be the primary stimulus. Meanwhile, manufacturers should plan initially, especially in notifying new chemicals, to comply with two or more laws, and anticipate only a slow movement toward consistency. In a section on prospects for the future, Biles ventures several forecasts for harmonizing notification and other requirements over the next decade. This time frame suggests another reason for postponing until 1987, or later, the next ACS symposium on this subject!

Thus far, the twelve views presented have been by representatives of the chemical industry itself, or of the industry by EPA, or by an outside counsel. This diversity is fitting not only because of the industry's primary responsibilities under TSCA, but also because of the longer period of time for these responses to show effects outside the industry.

As stated earlier, the unique nature of TSCA is its intent to balance the benefits of a chemical substance with its adverse effects on health and environment across the spectrum of public health and private interests. This purpose contrasts the goals of earlier environmental legislation to eliminate risks to health and environment, without regard to maintaining such benefits. Accomplishing this balance of effects has forced the continuing development of concepts and practices for distinguishing between reasonable and unreasonable risks. How will EPA reach decisions on this scale, and how will the industry and the public understand and support EPA's decision process?

To answer these and related questions, Decision Focus's D.W. North described a quantitative decision analysis for choosing among alternatives whose consequences are uncertain. This analysis rests on judgmental probability to quantify uncertainty. After reviewing the concepts of quantitative risk analysis and of cost-benefit analysis to show how decision analysis relates to them, an illustrative case study was presented drawn from a specific EPA project on perchloroethylene. At no point was it alleged that such analysis provides easily the "right" regulatory decision under TSCA. Complexities and uncertainties abound. What these disciplines do provide is a decision framework for illuminating these complexities and uncertainties for analysis by all concerned interests. In this way, insights are given, with improved communication and probability for consensus, more so than controversy.

The ultimate goal of such balancing of factors and decision making under TSCA is reduction of risks to health -- public and occupational -- and to the environment. As mentioned earlier, because of limited action by EPA under TSCA, related to the environment (aside from restricting manufacture, use and disposal of polychlorinated biphenyls, banning non-essential uses of chlorofluorocarbons, and from issuing a final rule on disposal of wastes of 2,3,7,8-tetrachlorodibenzo-p-dioxin), only impacts on health were discussed, by SRI's M.J. Lipsett. He stressed the practical limitations on measurement of TSCA's impacts to health. The inability to isolate TSCA's effects from those of other laws and the relative insensitivity of epidemologic studies to long-term effects of low level exposures are major impediments. Add to this list the preventive nature of TSCA. It follows that the best indicators must be estimates, extrapolated from animal tests, and then with much uncertainty.

Regardless, it is concluded that TSCA may have had some indirect health effects. Manufacturers of chemicals have increased their awareness of chronic hazards in the workplace, so that occupational exposures are likely to be lower than in the past. This greater awareness is due not to TSCA alone, but

230

to other influences such as product liability litigation, OSHA regulations, and persistent and greater media coverage.

Overall, it must be recognized that preventing unreasonable risks is harder to implement as a policy, and to measure as progress, than achieving percentage air reductions in air emissions of particular pollutants. This explains, in part, why implementation of TSCA has concentrated so far on gathering information rather than on controlling chemicals.

At best, these comments suggest that, perhaps in the future, there will be monitoring systems sufficient in number, specificity and reliability to determine if each of the many activities generated by TSCA is cost-effective. If this study is to be accomplished, there will have to be new leadership to manage toxic substances by selecting and integrating the several disciplines required. UCLA's R.L. Perrine proposed that an important route to this is educational. He described a four-year doctoral program to create "environmental chemical professionals" trained in the several disciplines, and in problem solution, not merely informative research. Application of knowledge across environmental, technical and societal fields is stressed in the UCLA program, which started in 1970 and now produces about sixteen "Environmental Doctors" each year. This is clearly a long-term approach. Expectations for the future are high. A critical policy question in this educational effort is this: "Where do we place the balance point in a choice between education at the doctoral level designed to meet the needs of society, and education that most conveniently adapts to the needs for understanding and research publication of university faculty?"

This long-term view of the costs and benefits of TSCA, why these cannot be quantified and how they may be managed better, characterizes the chapter by the Conservation Foundation's J.C. Davies. His critique of cost-benefit analysis contrasts that of D.W. North. Regardless, he lists separately some benefits and costs of TSCA. As to new chemicals, there is very limited evidence that unreasonable risks may have been averted from a few new chemicals. In general, aside from systems for defining new chemicals and monitoring these, if needed, he finds no significant benefits in this area of TSCA.

As to existing chemicals, while much information has been collected, what is most important is realizing the need to be more selective and skillful in collecting and processing data. Section 8(e) has been a fertile source of information on substantial risks, but only recently has EPA recognized the need to respond to these risks. EPA's failure to use its authority to require industry to test selected chemicals is similarly disparaged; so is EPA's current emphasis on voluntary testing by industry. In fairness, however, it is recognized that the record will show if this change in concept will be effective. Overall, the narrowing of focus to concentrate on chemicals of greater risk is perceived as essential to survival under the current restrictions in EPA's resources. No significant benefits are seen resulting from TSCA's controls on existing chemicals.

Direct and indirect costs are compared; public and private costs are estimated at 3.5-4 times those for EPA in 1981. Among the former is loss of innovation. While several studies of this factor have been made for the industry, their reliability is questioned, due in part to lack of sound data prior to 1976. No mention was made of economic trends affecting corporate expenditures for research and development, or of trends in the maturation of industrial chemistry itself. Other indirect costs, such as concentration of manufacture within the industry, may result from costs of compliance, especially for smaller manufacturers. These factors were not compared with extrinsic factors, such as shifts in feedstock supply and commodity manufacture from the United States to other countries.

Davies finds it impossible to determine if the benefits are worth the costs. He suggests that if we can agree that TSCA provides for public participation in industry decision-making about chemicals, then we may be able to define ways of decreasing TSCA's cost-benefit ratio. EPA's "100 Day Report" points the way to reduce time on low-risk new substances and to improve analysis and monitoring of high-risk chemicals. But Davies thinks that current interpretation of regulating existing chemicals is unworkable, and dependence on voluntary compliance is excessive. Unless the "due process" provided by TSCA will apply equally to voluntary actions, then the cynics who now view EPA as the "Industry Protection Agency" may be right. Also, TSCA's costly acquisition of information must be meshed more closely with controls, under TSCA, other laws or voluntary, to obtain commensurate benefits.

The final suggestion, and possibly least palatable to the ACS membership, is to recognize that most of the critical questions involve more policy than science. Better science is always needed but it is a policy question about how much risk -- chemical or otherwise -- society will tolerate. Thus, society as a whole, not only scientists, are entitled to participate in developing the answer.

The symposium ended on this philosophic note. Perhaps its sequel -- in five or ten years -- will be able to present more definitive evidence -- from government, chemical industry and other sources -- as to the merit of TSCA.

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232

INDEX

A

Amine benzoates, borates, and fatty
acids, metalworking fluids 160
Amines, primary, inhibition of
nitrosamines
Ammonia, and ammonium nitrate,
phosphate, and sulfate, data
available and testing planned75–78
Ammonium sulfamate, inhibition of nitrosamine formation
Ammonium, quaternary, compounds,
metalworking fluids
Analysis, cost-benefit evaluation
of TSCA
Analysis, quantitative, basis for
decisions under TSCA
Anhydride, acetic, data available and
testing planned
Animal experiments for evaluating
TSCA
Animal studies, extrapolation,
perchloroethylene 187–89
Annex VII, Sixth Amendment
Annex VIII, Sixth Amendment
Antimicrobials in metalworking
fluids
Article 6(1) and 7(1), Sixth
Amendment
Asbestos 88, 176
Ascorbate, inhibition of nitrosamine
formation 163–64
Assessment of chemical risks.
quantitative methods
Attorney support necessary for
chemical industry

B

Benzene, production volume	72 <i>t</i>
Benzene, data available and	
testing planned	5-78
Benzenes, chlorinated, and benzidine	
dyes, proposed test rules	88
Birth defects 16	9–79
Bromide, decyltrimethylammonium,	
and nitrosamine formation	163
Bronopol, nitrosamine formation	163

235

Business—See Chemical industry 1,3-Butadiene, data available and	
testing planned	75-78
Butadiene/styrene copolymer,	
production volume	71-73
Butylene, production volume	. 72 <i>t</i>

С

CAG—See Carcinogen Assessment
Group
Calcium carbonate, chloride,
hydroxide, and oxide, data
available and testing planned75-78 Cancer
Cancer 121–23, 169–79
Cancer nitrosamine-induced 159-65
Cancer, perchloroethylene
exposure 187 00
exposure
tasting planned 75 78
testing planned 75–78 Carbon dioxide and monoxide, data
Carbon dioxide and monoxide, data
available and testing planned75-78
Carbonate silicates, metalworking
fluids
Carbonates, data available and
testing planned
Carcinogen Assessment Group
(CÅG)
(CAG)
Amendment
Catalysis of nitrosamine formation,
metalworking fluids 161-62
Catalysts, polymerization, Federal
Registry submission summary
review 149
CBI—See Confidential Business
Information
Cellulose pulp, production volume71-73 Centers for Disease Control (CDC),
CFC—See Chlorofluorocarbons
Chemical additives in metalworking
water-based fluids
Chemical industry
corporate structure and procedures,
TSCA impact
disclosure policy vs. governmental
disclosure policy
information reporting, Sections
5 and 8 108 <i>i</i>
large firms vs. small firms
legal responsibilities
metalworking fluids and
nitrosamines
Monsanto company, Sections
5 and 8
5 and 8
product innovation
and PMNs 11–22
polymer
and product flow 24
sales and PMNs
54165 und 1 141145 1/

Chemical industry—Continued staff support functions added124-25
testing
existing chemicals67, 91, 173–79,
new chemicals
voluntary testing, cost-benefit analysis 215-23
Chemical Industry Institute of Toxicology (CIIT) 75-78, 131
Chemical Manufacturers Association
(CMA) 52-53 Chemical risks, quantitative methods
for assessment and evaluation184–86
Chemical Specialties Manufacturers Association (CSMA)
Chemical Substances Information
Network (CSIN)
Chemical Substances, European
Inventory of Existing, and
confidentiality 137-40 Chemical Substances, Registry of
Toxic Effects 119
Chemicals—See also New chemicals
Chemicals
classification under TSCA and
Sixth Amendment 39-41, 44-45, 54
data base of Monsanto Company
excluded from TSCA and Sixth
Amendment
existing cost-benefit analysis216–17
cost-benefit analysis
and testing in industry
regulation 173–79
introduction 7–22
new
confidentiality of innovations 133-40
cost-benefit analysis
regulation 173–79
cost-benefit analysis
and testing planned
volume distribution, EPA
inventory 68–75
Chemicals in Commerce Information
System (CICIS) 118
Chemicals program of the Organiza-
tion for Economic Cooperation
and Development
Chamiet environmental education 107 212
Chemist, environmental, education 197-212
Chlorinated benzenes, proposed
test rules
Chlorinated naphthalenes, decisions
not to test
Chlorine, data available and
testing planned
Chlorofluorocarbons (CFC)
Chloromethane, proposed test rules 88
Chromosomal and chromatid
aberrations
Classification of chemicals under
TSCA and Sixth Amend-
ment

Cleaners, perchloroethylene
exposure 187–90 Clean Water Act vs. TSCA 82–83
Clean Water Act vs. TSCA
CMA—See Chemical Manufacturers
Association
Coal and derivatives, volume
distribution
Coatings
Federal Registry submission
summary review 149
PMNs
Cobalt species, accelerators of
nitrosamine formation
Commencement notification and
PMNs 146
Commerce Information System,
Chemicals (CICIS) 118
Commercialization
decision process and information
flow
of new chemicals and PMNs 11–22
TSCA vs. Sixth Amendment 44
Communication and planning,
advantages
Companies, chemical—See also
Chemical industry
Company, Monsanto
Compliance hurdens on chemical
Compliance burdens on chemical industry 130
Compliance and PMNs 152f Computerized data bases 119
Compared and Compared and IT of the
Computerized Occupational Health/
Computerized Occupational Health/ Environmental Surveillance
Computerized Occupational Health/ Environmental Surveillance System (COHESS)

Counsel suport necessary for	
chemical industry	-26
Court decisions, National Parks vs.	
Morton 135	-36
CSIN—See Chemical Substances	
Information Network	
CSMA—See Chemical Specialties	
Manufacturers Association	
Cumene, data available and	
testing planned	-78
testing planned	
testing planned	
testing planned	
testing planned	-63
testing planned	-63 212
testing planned	-63 212 -65
testing planned	-63 212 -65 -78

D

Data base, Computerized Occupa-
tional Health/Environmental
Surveillance System
Decision process for commercializa-
tion, information flow144–45
Decisions, Organization for Economic
Cooperation and Development 50
Decyltrimethylammonium bromide
(DTAB), nitrosamine formation 163
Derivatives, primary, of petroleum,
volume distribution 72t
Development costs of new chemicals26-38
Dianisidine dyes, decisions not to test 88
1,2-Dichloroethane, data available
and testing planned75-78
Dichloromethane, proposed test rules 88
Diethanolamine, emulsifiers 159
Dimorpholine, 4,4'-(2-ethyl-2-
nitromylene)
Dioxin, Section 6
Disadvantages
lack of cost-benefit analysis
negative impact on new product
innovation 21t
Disclosure policy, government vs. chemical industry
chemical industry
Dissociation energy of N-N bond,
nitrosamine formation
Doctorate, Environmental Science and
Engineering, University of California,
Los Angeles
Dose-response assumptions for per-
chloroethylene case study
Dry-cleaning facilities, perchloro-
ethylene exposure
DTAB—See Decyltrimethylammo-
nium bromide
Dyes, benzidine, o-toluidine, and
dianisidine, decisions not to test

Е

Ecology, interdisciplinary education 203–12 Economic cooperation and develop-
education
Economic cooperation and develop-
ment organization (OECD),
activities
Economics of small-scale chemical
Economics of small-scale chemical
manufacture
Economics, resource, interdisciplinary
education 203–12
Ecotoxicological studies, Sixth
Amendment
Ecotoxicology, on top 50 chemicals75-79
EDTA Cas Ethyland diamin states
EDTA-See Ethylenediaminetetra-
acetic acid
Education of environmental profes-
sional chemists
EEC—See European Economic
Community
EINEC—See European Inventory of
Existing Chemical Substances
Emergency measures, TSCA vs.
Sixth Amendment
Emulsifiers, diethanolamine and
triethanolamine 159
Energy resources and technology,
interdisciplinary education 203-12
Energy, dissociation of N-N bond 164
Engineering and Environmental
Science, doctorate, University of
California, Los Angeles 197-212
Environment committee, Organiza-
tion for Economic Cooperation
tion for Economic Cooperation
and Development
Environmental engineering staff neces-
sary for chemical industry126-27
Environmental geology, interdiscipli-
nary education
Environmental Protection Agency
followup reporting
information management
internation management
interaction with Monsanto Company
Company
inventory, volume distribution of
chemicals 68-75
and PMNs
and production range of chemicals
regulation of new chemicals45-56, 54t
regulatory activities concerning
regulatory activities concerning
perchloroethylene 186
responsibilities
perchloroethylene 186 responsibilities 2–4 and Section 4 of TSCA 67
and Sections 4–6
Environmental regulations other
than TSCA 170–71
Environmental Science and Engineer-
ing doctorate University of
ing, doctorate, University of
California, Los Angeles 197-212
Epidemiological studies
Epidemiological studies, perchloro-
ethylene exposure

Ethanol, data available and testing	
planned	8
Ethylbenzene, data available and	
testing planned	8
Ethylene, ethylene dichloride, ethylene	
glycol, and ethylene oxide, data	
available and testing planned75-7	8
Ethylenediaminetetraacetic acid accel-	
erators of nitrosamine	
formation	3
4,4'-(2-Ethyl-2-nitromylene)-	
dimorpholine	3
European Economic Community	
(EEC), Sixth Amendment	5
premarketing notification system	
and confidentiality	
TSCA-equivalent laws	2
European Inventory of Existing	
Chemical Substances (EINECS)	
and confidentiality	0
Evaluation of chemical risks,	
quantitative methods	6
Exemption from TSCA	
Existing chemicals, regulation173-7	9
Experiments, animal, evaluating	
TSCA	5
Exposure assessment	9
Exposure, perchloroethylene, control	
policies for reduction	9

\mathbf{F}

Facilities, testing, necessary for	
chemical industry	128
Fatty acid amines, metalworking fluids	160
Federal Register submission summary	
review	149
Ferrocyanide and ferricyanide, accel-	
erators of nitrosamine	
formation16	2-63
Ferrous metals, refining residues6	9-70
Fetal defects	1-73
Filing costs, PMNs	31 <i>t</i>
Food and Drug Administration (FDA)	
and confidentiality	3-40
cosmetic trade secrecy system	138
Formaldehyde	
data available and testing planned7	5–78
metalworking fluids	1-62
polymers, production volume7	1–73
Formation, nitrosamine, in water-	
based metalworking fluids15	8–65
Freedom of Information Act	3–40

G

Gasoline, volume distribution	68, 72
Gene mutations	169–79
Geology, environmental, interdiscip-	
linary education	203-12
Glutathione and glycolamine, inhibi-	
tion of nitrosamines	163-64

Gas oils, production volume	74 <i>t</i>
technical information	40
mental science	

Н

Hazard vs. risk, definitions	62
Health effects of perchloroethylene	187
Health and environment, educational	i.
needs	97–212
Health impact, measurement of,	
	170-75
Health risks and Office of Toxic	
	19–22
Health and safety, occupational, inter	:-
disciplinary education	203-12
Health, human, and mammalian toxi-	
cology, on top 50 chemicals	75–79
Heavy straight run, naphtha, and gas	
oils, production volume	74 <i>t</i>
Human exposure, perchloroethylene	
case study	187–90
Human health and mammalian toxi-	
cology on top 50 chemicals	75–79
Human saliva, thiocyanate and	
nitrosamine formation	
Hydrocarbons, saturated	68–70
Hydrochloric acid, data available	
and testing planned	75–78
Hydrogen, production volume	73 <i>t</i>
Hydrology, interdisciplinary	
	203-12
Hydroxides, data available and	
testing planned73t,	
β -Hydroxynitrosamines, metalworkin	
fluids	161

I

Identification, hazard	184–85
Impact assessment, environmental,	
interdisciplinary education	203–12
Imports, product inventory of	
Monsanto Company	
Industry, chemical-See Chemical	
industry	
Information development by chemic	al
industry, Sections 5 and 8	108 <i>t</i>
Information flow and decision proce	ess
for commercialization	
Information management, TSCA-	
mandated	107-20
Information System, Chemicals in	
Commerce (CICIS)	118
Information, technical, and govern-	
mental confidentiality	
Inhibition of nitrosamine formation.	
metalworking fluids	

Inhibitor, corrosion, nitrite 159
Initiation of TSCA, background 121-24
Innovation under TSCA 23-28
confidentiality of new chemicals 133-40
negative impact on chemical
industry 21t
industry 21 <i>t</i> confidentiality of new chemicals133–40
Inorganics, volume
distribution
Institute of Toxicology, Chemical
Industry 131
Industry 131 Institutions, educational 197–212
Interagency Testing Committee
(ITC) 74–78, 85, 90
Interagency Testing Committee
priority lists, Monsanto Company 117
Introduction of chemicals
Inventory of products, isolated inter-
mediates, imports, and useful
byproducts, Monsanto
Company
Inventory, European, of Existing
Chemical Substances (EINECS),
and confidentiality
Iron, refining residues

K

Kerosine,	production volume	
Kerosine,	volume distribution	

L

М

Machine operators, perchloroethyle	ne
exposure	187–90
Mammalian toxicology, on top 50	
chemicals	75–79
Management of TSCA-mandated	
information	107–20

Management, environmental, interdis-
ciplinary education 203-12 Management, new functions necessary
Management, new functions necessary
for chemical industry 127
Manufacturers Association, Chemical
Specialties (CSMA)
Chemical industry
Market introduction of new chemicals 1–22
Market introduction of new chemicals 1–22 Market introduction and PMN costs23–38
Measurement of health impact,
limitations
Mechanism, oxidation-reduction,
accelerators of nitrosamine
formation
Mercuric acetate, accelerators of
nitrosamine formation
Metals
accelerators of nitrosamine
formation 162–63
and refining residues, volume
distribution
Metalworking fluids industry and
nitrosamines 157–65
Meteorology, interdisciplinary
education
Methanesulfonyl-p-toluene
sulfonamide 88
Methanol, data available and
testing planned
5-Methyl-N-nitrosooxazolidine,
metalworking fluids 161
Mice, skin-painting studies,
nitrosamines 159
Microbiological control, interdiscip-
linary education 203–12 Microorganisms, catalysis of
Microorganisms, catalysis of
nitrosamines
Minerals, volume distribution
Minimum Premarketing Set of Data
(MPD), Organization for
Economic Cooperation and
Development
Molybate ion, accelerators of
nitrosamine formation
Monsanto Company 113
Morpholine, 4-(2-nitrobutyl)
Mouse studies, extrapolation, per-
chloroethylene
Mutagenicity, Sixth Amendment
Mutations, gene
Mutual Acceptance of Data (MAD),
Organization for Economic
Cooperation and Development 51
- •
Ν

Naphtha, production volume	74 <i>t</i>
Naphthalenes, chlorinated, decisions	
not to test	88
National Parks vs. Morton decision135	5-36

Natural products and derivatives,
volume distribution
Natural Resources Defense Council
(NRDC), court action on ITC
list
NDEIA-See N-Nitrosodiethanol-
amine
Negative effects—See Disadvantages
New chemicals
confidentiality of innovations133-40
cost-benefit analysis
EPA regulation
negative impact of TSCA on
chemical industry
PMNs
regulation
regulation in the European Eco-
nomic Community (EEC) 39-65
TSCA definition
Nitrates and nitric acid, data avail-
able and testing planned
Nitrite substitutes, metalworking
fluids
Nitrite, corrosion inhibitor
Nitrobenzene, proposed test rules 88
4-(2-Nitrobutyl)morpholine
Nitrogen oxide derivatives,
nitrosamine formation
Nitrogen, data available and testing
planned
Nitromethane, tris(hydroxymethyl)- 162-63
Nitrosamines and metalworking fluids
industry
Nitrosation, pH dependence
N-Nitrosodiethanolamine
(NDEIA)
Notices, Section 8(e)

0

Occupational health statutes other	
than TSCA	170-71
Occupational Safety and Health Act	
vs. TSCA	82-83
Oceanography, interdisciplinary	
education	203-12
Office of Toxic Substances	
and health risks	19-22
voluntary controls	215-23
Oils vs. synthetics, metalworking	
fluids	159
Organics, volume distribution	69-73
Organisms, volume distribution	69 <i>t</i>
Organization for Economic Coopera	
tion and Development (OECD).	,
activities	
Organophosphates, metalworking	
fluids	160
Origin of TSCA1-5	, 81-83
Oxidation-reduction mechanism,	
accelerators of nitrosamine	
formation	162-63

Oxides, production volume and sum-
mary of data available and
testing planned
Oxygen, data available and testing
planned

Р

Paints, PMNs	
PCBs—See Polychlorinated biphenyls	ł
Perchloroethylene (PCE), case	1
study	ł
study	
of TSCA	J
Petroleum and derivatives, volume	
distribution	J
pH dependence, nitrosation	
Phenol-formaldehyde polymer, production volume	
Phenol, summary of data available	
and testing planned	
Phenols, inhibition of nitrosamines	
Phosphate silicates, metalworking	
fluids	1
Phosphates and phosphoric acid,	J
summary of data available	
and testing planned	1
Physical properties affecting	1
nitrosamine formation	1
Physical properties on top 50	1
chemicals	1
Physicochemical properties, Sixth	
Amendment	1
Pigments and dyes, volume	
distribution 69t	
Planning and communication,	
advantages	
Planning, environmental, interdiscip-	
linary education	
Plasticizers and PMNs	
Plastics, volume distribution	
PMN—See Premanufacture	
notification	2
Policy, chemical industry vs.	-
government 136-41 Policy, environmental, interdiscip-	
Policy, environmental, interdiscip-	
linary education 203–12 Pollution, interdisciplinary education 203–12	
Pollution, interdisciplinary	
education 203–12 Polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs)	
legislature 1, 5	
Section 6	
Polychlorinated terphenyls, decisions	
not to test	
Poly(ethylene terephthalate),	
production volume	
Polyethylene, production volume	
Polymer industry 141–54	
Polymerization catalysts, Federal	
Registry submission summary	
review 149	

	Polymer
	phenol-formaldehyde and urea-
	formaldehyde, production
	volume
	and PMNs
	volume distribution69–73
	Polypropylene, polystyrene, and
	polyvinyl chloride, production
•	volume
	Positive effects—
	See Advantages
,	Precautions, TSCA vs. Sixth
	Amendment
	Preemption of TSCA and Sixth
	Amendment
	Premanufacture notification
	(PMN)
	and confidentiality, EEC 137-40
•	cost-benefit analysis
	cost-benefit analysis 215-16 and effects on polymer industry 142-54
5	filing costs 27-31
ł	new chemicals
	and Sixth Amendment
)	Premarketing set of data, minimum,
	Organization for Economic Co-
	operation and Development
3	Primary amines, inhibition of
	nitrosamines 163–64
5	Private sector—See Chemical industry
	Product cost increase with PMNs
)	Product innovation, negative impact
)	Product innovation, negative impact of TSCA 21t
3	Product innovation, negative impact of TSCA
3	Product innovation, negative impact of TSCA
) 3 t	Product innovation, negative impact of TSCA 21 <i>t</i> Product inventory, isolated inter- mediates, imports, and useful humeduate. Moreoreto
	Product innovation, negative impact of TSCA 21 <i>t</i> Product inventory, isolated inter- mediates, imports, and useful humeduate. Moreoreto
	Product innovation, negative impact of TSCA
t	Product innovation, negative impact of TSCA 21 <i>t</i> Product inventory, isolated inter- mediates, imports, and useful byproducts, Monsanto Company 116–19 Production
t	Product innovation, negative impact of TSCA 21 <i>t</i> Product inventory, isolated inter- mediates, imports, and useful byproducts, Monsanto Company 116–19 Production under PMNs 30 <i>f</i> , 37, 38
t 1 2	Product innovation, negative impact of TSCA 21 <i>t</i> Product inventory, isolated inter- mediates, imports, and useful byproducts, Monsanto Company 116–19 Production under PMNs 30 <i>f</i> , 37, 38 range of chemicals.
t	Product innovation, negative impact of TSCA 21 <i>t</i> Product inventory, isolated inter- mediates, imports, and useful byproducts, Monsanto Company 116–19 Production under PMNs 30 <i>f</i> , 37, 38 range of chemicals, EPA inventory 68–75
t 1 2	Product innovation, negative impact of TSCA 21 <i>t</i> Product inventory, isolated inter- mediates, imports, and useful byproducts, Monsanto Company 116–19 Production under PMNs 30 <i>f</i> , 37, 38 range of chemicals, EPA inventory 68–75 small-scale and introduction
t 1 2	Product innovation, negative impact of TSCA 21 <i>t</i> Product inventory, isolated inter- mediates, imports, and useful byproducts, Monsanto Company 116–19 Production under PMNs 30 <i>f</i> , 37, 38 range of chemicals, EPA inventory 68–75 small-scale and introduction costs 26–23
t 1 2	Product innovation, negative impact of TSCA 21t Product inventory, isolated inter- mediates, imports, and useful byproducts, Monsanto Company 116–19 Production under PMNs 30f, 37, 38 range of chemicals, EPA inventory 68–75 small-scale and introduction costs 26–23 Products, small-scale 35
t 1 2	Product innovation, negative impact of TSCA 21t Product inventory, isolated inter- mediates, imports, and useful byproducts, Monsanto Company 116–19 Production under PMNs 30f, 37, 38 range of chemicals, EPA inventory 68–75 small-scale and introduction costs 26–23 Products, small-scale 35 Professional chemist, education 197–212
t 1 2	Product innovation, negative impact of TSCA 21t Product inventory, isolated inter- mediates, imports, and useful byproducts, Monsanto Company 116–19 Production under PMNs 30f, 37, 38 range of chemicals, EPA inventory 68–75 small-scale and introduction costs 26–23 Products, small-scale 35 Professional chemist, education 197–212 Programs, surveillance and record-
t 1 2	Product innovation, negative impact of TSCA 21 <i>t</i> Product inventory, isolated inter- mediates, imports, and useful byproducts, Monsanto Company 116–19 Production under PMNs 30 <i>f</i> , 37, 38 range of chemicals, EPA inventory 68–75 small-scale and introduction costs 26–23 Products, small-scale 35 Professional chemist, education 197–212 Programs, surveillance and record- keeping necessary for chemical
t 1 2	Product innovation, negative impact of TSCA 21t Product inventory, isolated inter- mediates, imports, and useful byproducts, Monsanto Company 116–19 Production 30f, 37, 38 range of chemicals, 68–75 small-scale and introduction 26–23 Products, small-scale 35 Professional chemist, education 197–212 Programs, surveillance and record- keeping necessary for chemical industry 129–30
t 1 2	Product innovation, negative impact of TSCA 21 <i>t</i> Product inventory, isolated inter- mediates, imports, and useful byproducts, Monsanto Company 116–19 Production under PMNs 30 <i>f</i> , 37, 38 range of chemicals, EPA inventory 68–75 small-scale and introduction costs 26–23 Products, small-scale 35 Professional chemist, education 197–212 Programs, surveillance and record- keeping necessary for chemical industry 129–30 Propanol, data available and testing
t 1 2	Product innovation, negative impact of TSCA 21t Product inventory, isolated inter- mediates, imports, and useful byproducts, Monsanto Company 116–19 Production 30f, 37, 38 range of chemicals, 68–75 Small-scale and introduction 26–23 Products, small-scale 35 Professional chemist, education 197–212 Programs, surveillance and record- keeping necessary for chemical industry 129–30 Propanol, data available and testing planned 75–78
t 1 2	Product innovation, negative impact of TSCA 21t Product inventory, isolated inter- mediates, imports, and useful byproducts, Monsanto 21t Product inventory, isolated inter- mediates, imports, and useful byproducts, Monsanto 116–19 Production 116–19 Production 30f, 37, 38 range of chemicals, 68–75 small-scale and introduction 26–23 Products, small-scale 35 Professional chemist, education 197–212 Programs, surveillance and record- keeping necessary for chemical industry 129–30 Propanol, data available and testing planned 75–78 Properties 75–78
t	Product innovation, negative impact of TSCA 21 <i>t</i> Product inventory, isolated inter- mediates, imports, and useful byproducts, Monsanto Company 116–19 Production under PMNs 30 <i>f</i> , 37, 38 range of chemicals, EPA inventory 68–75 small-scale and introduction costs 26–23 Products, small-scale 35 Professional chemist, education 197–212 Programs, surveillance and record- keeping necessary for chemical industry 129–30 Propanol, data available and testing planned 75–78 Properties physical
t	Product innovation, negative impact of TSCA 21 <i>t</i> Product inventory, isolated inter- mediates, imports, and useful byproducts, Monsanto Company 116–19 Production under PMNs 30 <i>f</i> , 37, 38 range of chemicals, EPA inventory 68–75 small-scale and introduction costs 26–23 Products, small-scale 35 Professional chemist, education 197–212 Programs, surveillance and record- keeping necessary for chemical industry 129–30 Propanol, data available and testing planned 75–78 Properties physical affecting nitrosamine
t	Product innovation, negative impact of TSCA 21t Product inventory, isolated inter- mediates, imports, and useful byproducts, Monsanto Company 116–19 Production 30f, 37, 38 range of chemicals, EPA inventory 68–75 small-scale and introduction 26–23 Products, small-scale 35 Professional chemist, education 197–212 Programs, surveillance and record- keeping necessary for chemical industry 129–30 Propanol, data available and testing planned 75–78 Properties physical affecting nitrosamine formation 164–65
	Product innovation, negative impact of TSCA 21t Product inventory, isolated inter- mediates, imports, and useful byproducts, Monsanto Company 116–19 Production 30f, 37, 38 range of chemicals, EPA inventory 68–75 small-scale and introduction 26–23 Products, small-scale 35 Professional chemist, education 197–212 Programs, surveillance and record- keeping necessary for chemical industry 129–30 Propanol, data available and testing planned 75–78 Properties physical affecting nitrosamine formation 164–65 on top 50 chemicals
	Product innovation, negative impact of TSCA 21 <i>t</i> Product inventory, isolated inter- mediates, imports, and useful byproducts, Monsanto Company 116–19 Production under PMNs 30 <i>f</i> , 37, 38 range of chemicals, EPA inventory 68–75 small-scale and introduction costs 26–23 Products, small-scale 35 Professional chemist, education 197–212 Programs, surveillance and record- keeping necessary for chemical industry 129–30 Propanol, data available and testing planned 75–78 Properties physical affecting nitrosamine formation 164–65 on top 50 chemicals 75–79 physicochemical, Sixth
	Product innovation, negative impact of TSCA 21t Product inventory, isolated inter- mediates, imports, and useful byproducts, Monsanto 21t Product inventory, isolated inter- mediates, imports, and useful byproducts, Monsanto 116–19 Production 116–19 Production 30f, 37, 38 range of chemicals, 68–75 small-scale and introduction 26–23 Products, small-scale 35 Professional chemist, education 197–212 Programs, surveillance and record- keeping necessary for chemical industry 129–30 Propanol, data available and testing planned 75–78 Properties physical affecting nitrosamine formation 164–65 on top 50 chemicals .75–79 physicochemical, Sixth Amendment 42–43
	Product innovation, negative impact of TSCA 21t Product inventory, isolated inter- mediates, imports, and useful byproducts, Monsanto 21t Company 116–19 Production 116–19 under PMNs 30f, 37, 38 range of chemicals, 68–75 small-scale and introduction 26–23 Products, small-scale 35 Professional chemist, education 197–212 Programs, surveillance and record- keeping necessary for chemical industry 129–30 Propanol, data available and testing planned 75–78 Properties physical affecting nitrosamine formation 164–65 on top 50 chemicals, Sixth Amendment 42–43 Propylene and propylene oxide, 129–30
	Product innovation, negative impact of TSCA 21t Product inventory, isolated inter- mediates, imports, and useful byproducts, Monsanto Company 116–19 Production 30f, 37, 38 range of chemicals, EPA inventory 68–75 small-scale and introduction costs 26–23 Products, small-scale 35 Professional chemist, education 197–212 Programs, surveillance and record- keeping necessary for chemical industry 129–30 Propanol, data available and testing planned 75–78 Properties physical affecting nitrosamine formation 164–65 on top 50 chemicals 75–79 physicochemical, Sixth Amendment 42–43 Propylene and propylene oxide, data available and testing 1
	Product innovation, negative impact of TSCA 21t Product inventory, isolated inter- mediates, imports, and useful byproducts, Monsanto 21t Company 116–19 Production 116–19 under PMNs 30f, 37, 38 range of chemicals, 68–75 small-scale and introduction 26–23 Products, small-scale 35 Professional chemist, education 197–212 Programs, surveillance and record- keeping necessary for chemical industry 129–30 Propanol, data available and testing planned 75–78 Properties physical affecting nitrosamine formation 164–65 on top 50 chemicals, Sixth Amendment 42–43 Propylene and propylene oxide, 129–30

Quantitative analysis, basis for deci-	
sions under TSCA	181-94
Quarternary ammonium compounds,	,
metalworking fluids	160

Q

R

K
Range, production, of chemicals, EPA inventory
Reactions
oxidation-reduction mechanism for
accelerators of nitrosamine
formation
retroaldol-type, metalworking
fluids 161
Recommendations, Organization for
Economic Cooperation and
Development 5
Recordkeeping and surveillance
programs necessary for chemical
industry
Refining residues and metals, volume
distribution 69 <i>t</i> Registry of Toxic Effects of Chemical
Registry of Toxic Effects of Chemical
Substances 119
Regulation of existing chemicals 173-79
Regulation of new chemicals
39–65, 173–79
Regulation of new chemicals in the
European Economic Community
39–65, 92
Regulation, environmental,
interdisciplinary education203-212
Regulation, unreasonable risk
Regulatory Research Service (RRS)
and PMN filing costs
Reporting information by chemical
industry, Sections 5 and 8 108t
Research and development costs and innovation
necessary for chemical industry 130
Residents, urban and perchloro-
ethylene exposure
Resins and Federal Registry sub-
mission summary review
Resource economics, interdisciplinary
education
Retroaldol-type reactions, metal-
working fluids
Risk assessment methodology
184–86
Risk assessment and PMNs 17
Risk assessment and PMNs17Risk of existing chemicals and EPA67Risk, definition82–83
Risk, definition 82–83
Rat studies, extrapolation, perchloro-
ethylene

\mathbf{S}

Sales, manufacturers, and PMNs Saliva, human, thiocyanate and	
nitrosamine formation	162
Seturated hudrosorhone production	. 102
Saturated hydrocarbons, production	<0 70
volume	08–70
Science, environmental, educational	
needs	97-212
Section 2 of TSCA	-84,90
Section 4 of TSCA	
and FPA	67
impost on abomical industry	121 27
impact on chemical moustry	05 00
outline	83-89
and EPA impact on chemical industry outline Section 5 of TSCA	1/3-19
cost-benefit analysis	213-10
information developing and report	
ing by chemical industry	. 108
information requirement	
status	13 117
status	05 00
outline	85, 88
Section 6 of TSCA	. 84
compliance burdens	. 130
outline	. 87-88
Section 7 of TSCA outline	85-86
Section 8 of TSCA 142	1/ 1/0
section of TSCA	17 10
Section 6 of TSCA compliance burdens outline 85. Section 7 of TSCA, outline 85. Section 8 of TSCA 142-4 cost-benefit analysis	217-18
mormation developing and	
reporting by chemical	
industry	. 1081
industry information requirement status	113-18
and metalworking fluids industry	159
outline	86 80
the first and a second se	121
staff support necessary	27, 131
Section 10 of ISCA, mandates	. 113
Section 14 of 1SCA and confiden-	
tiality	136–37
tiality Section 9–21 of TSCA, outline	.86-89
Silicates, metalworking fluids	160
Sixth Amendment and TSCA	39_65
Size of manufacturing firms and	.57-05
Size of manufacturing minis and	17 00
PMNs Skin-painting studies, nitrosamines	.1/22
Skin-painting studies, nitrosamines	. 159
Sinali minis vs. large minis, chemical	
industry	125–31
Smoking, thiocyanate and nitros-	
amine formation	162
Society and environment inter	
disciplinary education	7 212
disciplinary education	<i>,</i> – <i>2</i> 12
Sodium carbonate, hydroxide,	
sulfate, and tripolyphosphate,	
data available and testing	
planned	.75-78
Sodium sulfite inhibition of	
Sodium sulfite, inhibition of nitrosamines	163 64
Software Computarized Occuration-1	103-04
Software, Computerized Occupational	l
Health/Environmental	
Health/Environmental Surveillance System	129–30

In TSCA's Impact on Society and Chemical Industry; Ingle, G.; ACS Symposium Series; American Chemical Society: Washington, DC, 1983.

Staff support functions added added
because of TSCA 124-25
Standardization of TSCA and Sixth
Amendment
Storage, nitrite, and nitrosamine
formation 164
Straight run, gas oils, production
volume 74 <i>t</i>
Structure-activity studies, evaluating
TSCA 177
Studies
epidemiological 171
epidemiological, perchloroethylene exposure 189–90
exposure 189–90 structure–activity, evaluating TSCA 177
Styrene-butadiene copolymer,
production volume 71–73
Styrene, data available and testing planned
Submission summary review, Federal
Register 149
Sulfate, aluminum, ammonium, and
sodium, summary of data avail
able and testing planned
Sulfur and sulfuric acid, summary
of data available and testing
planned
Surveillance programs and record-
keeping necessary for chemical
industry 129–30
Synthetics vs. oils, metalworking
fluids 159

Т

Technical staff necessary for industry	126
Technology and environment,	
interdisciplinary education 19	7-212
Teflon fluorocarbon resin, recognition	
of uses	26-27
Temperature effect, nitrosation	164
Terephthalic acid, data available and	
testing planned	75-78
Terphenyls, polychlorinated,	
decisions not to test	. 88
Testing	127
acute toxicity	
Chemical Industry Institut of	
Toxicology (CIIT), programs	75–78
costs1	47–49
existing chemicals	67
Interagency Committee priority	
lists, Monsanto Company	. 117
Organization for Economic	
Cooperation and Development	
guidelines	50
on top 50 chemicals	75–79

Testing—Continued
TSCA vs. Sixth Amendment42-49, 54
2, 3, 7, 8-Tetracholorodizenzo-p-
dioxin 88
Tetrachloroethylene, case study186-92
Thiocyanate, catalysis of nitrosamines 162
Titanium oxide, data available and
testing planned75–78
Tocopherol, inhibition of nitrosamine
formation
Toluene, production volume
Toluene
data available and testing planned75-78
o-Toluidine dyes, decisions not to
test
Toxic Effects of Chemical Substances,
Registry 119
Toxicity testing
acute
costs
polymer industry 149
Sixth Amendment
Toxicology, environmental, inter-
disciplinary education
Trade Secrets Act 136
Transition metals, accelerators of
nitrosamine formation
5-Triazine, 1,3,5-trimethylhexa-
hydro
1,1,1-Trichloroethane, proposed test
rules 88
Triethanolamine, emulsifiers 159
1,3,5-trimethylhexahydro-5-
triazine 162–63
Tris (hydroxymethyl) nitromethane162-63
TSCA—See Sections 2–21
TSCA vs. EEC's Sixth Amendment 39-65
Tumors, skin, and nitrosamines 159

U

University of California, Los Angeles,
program for Doctorate of
Environmental Science and
Engineering 197–212
Unreasonable risk, regulations45-46
Urban residents, perchloroethylene
exposure
Urea
data available and testing planned75-78
inhibition of nitrosamine
formation
Urea-formaldehyde polymer,
production volume
U.S. Food and Drug Administration
(FDA), cosmetic trade secrecy
system 138
U.S. Freedom of Information Act133-40

Y
Vinyl acetate and chloride, data
available and testing planned75–78
Vitamin C, inhibition of nitrosamine
formation
Volume distribution of chemicals
EPA inventory
of primary derivatives of petroleum 72t
Voluntary testing by chemical
industry, cost-benefit analysis215-23

W

Water glass,	data avai	ilable ai	nd	
testing	planned			.75–78

Water pollution, interdisciplinary	
education	203-12
Water-based metalworking fluids,	
nitrosamine formation	158-65
Workers, perchloroethylene	
exposure	187-90
1	

Х

Xylene, data	available and	testing		
planned			757	8

Z

Zero-risk law, Foo	d, Drug, and
Cosmetic Act	