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BuildingGreen's Top 10 Products for 2019

[Source: Vimeo, November 9, 2018](#)

Author: BuildingGreen

Brent Ehrlich and Alex Wilson announce BuildingGreen's selections for the best 10 green building products of the year.

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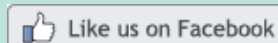
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Notice of Intent to List: p-Chloro- α,α,α -trifluorotoluene (Para-Chlorobenzotrifluoride, PCBTF)

[Source: The Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment \(OEHHA\)](#)

The California Environmental Protection Agency's Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA) intends to list p-chloro- α,α,α -trifluorotoluene (also known as para-chlorobenzotrifluoride, or PCBTF) as known to the state to cause cancer under the Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986. This action is being proposed under the authoritative bodies listing mechanism.

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[See also from ChemicalWatch, "California eyes PCBTF Prop 65 listing, adds two others"](#)

Is your supply chain fit for the future?

Source: [Environmental Leader](#)

Companies continue to face increasing demands to demonstrate that sustainability considerations are taken into account not only in directly controlled operations but across the entire value chain, as well.

The pressure is coming from multiple direct and indirect stakeholders, e.g. customers and final consumers, national and international legislations, global agreements (such as the Paris Agreement from COP 21 and the UN Sustainable Development Goals, both signed in 2015). In addition, there are also international standards such as ISO 20400 Guidance for Sustainable Procurement launched in 2017....

Mirroring the macro-trends, the concept of what constitutes sustainable procurement and supply chain management, and what it entails to succeed has evolved, ranging from legislative and stakeholder demands to global frameworks demanding new voluntary actions that contribute both to a successful business performance and respond to common global challenges.

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See also the [Supply Chain Presentations from the Fall 2018 TURA Continuing Education Conference](#)

See also from *The Environmental Leader*, "[Blockchain and Environmental Sustainability](#)"

The Problem with Microplastics

Source: [European Chemicals Agency, 2018](#)

Microplastics are very small particles of plastic material (typically smaller than 5mm and often much smaller including nano plastics). They can be unintentionally formed through the wear and tear of larger pieces of plastic, including synthetic textiles. They can also be deliberately manufactured and intentionally added to products for a specific purpose, for example, as exfoliating beads in facial or body scrubs or as glitter in make-up. Once released to the environment, they may be accumulated by animals, including fish and shellfish and consequently eaten as food by consumers.

Prompted by concerns for the environment and human health, several EU Member States have enacted or proposed national bans on the intentional use of microplastics in certain consumer products, principally uses of 'microbeads' in 'rinse-off' cosmetic products where they are used as exfoliating and cleansing agents.

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California Law Bans Future Flame Retardants

Source: [BuildingGreen, November 5, 2018](#)

Author: Paula Melton

It's a familiar story: a toxic substance gets phased out, only to be replaced with a chemically similar one that has the same toxic properties. An amendment to existing California law aims to stop this pattern of "regrettable substitution" by effectively banning whole classes of flame retardants in upholstered furniture, mattresses, and children's products.

The covered classes-halogenated, organophosphorous, organonitrogen, and nanoscale flame retardants - may not be present in the product in concentrations above 1,000 parts per million. By prohibiting entire classes of chemicals, the law has the unprecedented effect of banning future flame retardants that may be developed.

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Popular Toys Contain Toxics and Other Hazards

[Source: U.S. PIRG, November 20, 2018](#)

Author: Adam Garber

This holiday season, watch out for dangerous and toxic toys. U.S. PIRG's 33rd annual Trouble in Toyland report found toxic amounts of boron, which can cause nausea, vomiting and other health issues, in slime products as well as finding that Amazon failed to appropriately label choking hazards.

"No one should worry about whether or not the toy they're buying is toxic or dangerous. But in 2018, we're still finding hazards in some of the most popular toys. Toy manufacturers must do better to ensure their products are safe before they end up in children's hands and mouths," said Adam Garber, Consumer Watchdog for U.S. PIRG.

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Read the [full report](#).

Market Survey: Use of Bisphenol A and its alternatives in thermal paper in the EU from 2014 to 2017

[Source: European Chemicals Agency, May 2018](#)

The main development in 2017 was that the volume of BPS used as developer in thermal paper manufactured and placed on the market in the EU doubled from 15 kt to 34 kt. This represented about 9 % of the total share of the EU thermal paper market, an increase compared to the 5 % in the previous year. The other noteworthy trend was that the overall volume of thermal paper placed on the EU market by EU manufacturers (members of the European Thermal Paper Association, ETPA) was estimated to have increased by 7 % from 2016 to 2017. In absolute terms, the volume of BPA-based thermal paper placed on the EU market by EU manufacturers increased from 2016 to 2017, whereas that of other developers went down.

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