

OECD Webinar on alternatives to long chain PFCs
Co-organized with the Stockholm Convention Secretariat
18 April 2011

Information note

Objective: To provide updates on activities related to alternatives to long chain PFCs, to introduce the guidance on alternatives developed by the Stockholm Convention's POPs Review Committee, to share country experience in managing PFCs, and to discuss the ideas to address the challenges in sharing information and experience.

Agenda:

- Opening (Stockholm Secretariat/OECD) – 2 minutes
- Presentations
 - Introduction to PFC related work at OECD (Mr. Peter Börkey/OECD) – 5 min
 - Introduction on PFOS under the Stockholm Convention (Ms. Melisa Lim/Stockholm Convention Secretariat) – 8 min
 - Guidance on alternatives to PFOS related substances developed by the POPs Review Committee (Prof. Samuel Banda/Committee member) – 8 min
 - Input from industry on alternatives to PFCs (Mr. Richard Holt/FluoroCouncil) – 8 min
 - USA's efforts on alternatives to PFCs (Mr. Toni Krasnic/US EPA) – 8 min
 - Japan's efforts on management of PFCs (Mr. Tadahiro Ikemoto/MOE Japan) – 8 min
- Questions/Answer – 10 min

Webinar starting time:

18 April 2011 – 7am Washington DC, 1pm Paris, 7pm Beijing and 8pm Tokyo time

Background

Resolution II/5 of the International Conference on Chemicals Management (ICCM2) for the management of perfluorinated chemicals (PFCs) and transition to safer alternatives invites governments, international organizations, and other stakeholders to consider the development, facilitation and promotion in an open, transparent and inclusive manner of national and international stewardship programmes and regulatory approaches to reduce emissions and the content of relevant perfluorinated chemicals of concern in products and to work toward global elimination, where appropriate and technically feasible.

The efforts identified by ICCM2 include: information-gathering activities and information exchange on alternatives; progress in and examples of regulatory actions and voluntary

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programmes; monitoring; emissions; exposure; environmental fate and transport; and potential effects of perfluorinated chemicals and alternatives on human health and the environment.

In order to support these efforts, the OECD's PFC Steering Group is holding a series of webinars. This webinar will focus on alternatives to long-chain PFCs and is organized jointly with the Secretariat of the Stockholm Convention.

In 2009, PFOS, its salts and PFOSF were added to Annex B of the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants, resulting in the obligation for Parties to the Convention to restrict the production and use of these substances. This amendment to the Convention entered into force in August 2010. PFOS and its derivatives have been and continue to be used for a wide range of industrial applications. Replacing PFOS with other less hazardous chemicals in some of these applications is considered to be technically difficult but is essential for eventually eliminating the use of PFOS. To support and stimulate this process, the POPs Review Committee, a scientific subsidiary body of the Stockholm Convention, has developed a guidance document on alternatives to PFOS and its derivatives. The guidance can be downloaded at www.pops.int/POPRC/ (under POPRC6, meeting documents, UNEP/POPS/POPRC.6/13/Add.3).

Logistical information

Webinar starting time: 18 April 2011 – 7am Washington DC, 1pm Paris, 7pm Beijing and 8pm Tokyo time

To register for the PFCs Webinar you will need a computer with internet access and a phone. Please use the following link: <https://www1.gotomeeting.com/register/349155232>.

When you register for the webinar using the URL above, you will be given additional information regarding the system requirements and instructions on how to log in to participate the day of the Webinar.

For both webinars:

System Requirements:

PC-based attendees

Required: Windows(r) 7, Vista, XP or 2003 Server

Macintosh(r)-based attendees

Required: Mac OS(r) X 10.4.11 (Tiger(r)) or newer

Please log in about 15 to 20 minutes before the webinar starts in order to download the presentations and any other software requirements, such as JavaScript. Once the software is installed, you will have access to the webinar. For international participants, the access numbers are listed in the table on the next page. Participants with limited access to international numbers or in need of assistance, should register for the webinar and send an e-mail to Ana Corado (corado.ana@epa.gov) to request assistance with the conference call.

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Table: Access numbers for international participants

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France Dial-in # :	0800905413
Germany Dial-in # :	0-8001818637
Greece Dial-in # :	0080016122031289
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Hungary Dial-in # :	0680016066
Iceland Dial-in # :	8008444
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India *SITF* BSNL & MTNL Dial-in # :	0008001006187
Indonesia Dial-in # :	0018030170324
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