



EUROPEAN CHLORINATED SOLVENT ASSOCIATION

## FOR THE SAFE USE OF TRICHLOROETHYLENE IN METAL CLEANING

The European producers of trichloroethylene (TRI) want to ensure application of the best possible Product Stewardship principles throughout the entire supply chain. TRI is most efficiently and safely used for metal cleaning in closed systems.

The TRI producers have proactively worked with the EU authorities to develop a voluntary industry-wide commitment to:

- ensure adequate control of risks related to the use of TRI in metal cleaning as identified in the EU Risk Assessment;
- safeguard the long-term sustainable use of TRI in closed systems for metal cleaning.

The Charter represents a voluntary commitment open for signature by producers and importers of TRI, based on their own individual decisions. The members of the European Chlorinated Solvent Association (ECSA) have signed the Charter and urge other producers and importers either to sign the Charter or to adopt measures that will achieve similar health, safety and environmental improvements.

The Charter will be a demonstration of the commitment made by the signatories to ensure the safe and sustainable use of TRI by voluntarily not supplying TRI for open metal-cleaning uses.

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### CHARTER DECLARATION

**The signing parties to this Charter declare their commitment - in line with *Responsible Care*® - to phase out sales of TRI for open metal-cleaning systems no later than 31 December 2010.**

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### CHARTER COMMITMENTS

To achieve this goal, the signatories voluntarily agree to:

1 forthwith

- urge all end-users in metal cleaning to install and use closed systems (see definition at bottom of page 2<sup>1</sup>);
- require their distributors to inform end-users about this Charter and to provide end-users with essential information about closed systems and the importance of using closed systems for metal cleaning with trichloroethylene.

- 2 install a system to restrict the supply of trichloroethylene solvent products for metal cleaning exclusively to end-users that have signed as a pre-condition of purchase
  - by 31 December 2007 a declaration of awareness regarding the requirement to use trichloroethylene only in closed systems;
  - by 31 December 2010 a declaration of conformity stating that they use trichloroethylene only in closed systems.
- 3 require distributors to ask end-users for metal cleaning for such declarations as a pre-condition of sales and keep these declarations on file;
- 4 require distributors to use a third party assessment system (e.g. ESAD II audit system) and to report on the implementation of an agreed improvement plan in order to monitor implementation of this charter;
- 5 incorporate these charter requirements (points 1-4) into their distribution contracts.

## SIGNATURES

Dow Europe GmbH Plamen Angelov,  
Market Manager  
Chlorinated Organics



Ineos Chlor Ralston Skinner,  
Business Manager Derivatives



CHIMCOMPLEX SA BORZEȘTI Virgiliu Băncilă  
ROMÂNIA General Manager



BANNER CHEMICALS LTD MOTTIE KESSLER  
CHAIRMAN & CEO



## BACKGROUND

- In 2001, trichloroethylene (TRI) was classified Carc. Cat. 2 with label R45;
- For R45 solvents, the Solvents Emissions Directive provides for a consumption threshold of one tonne/year for surface cleaning;
- End-users consuming less than one tonne of TRI per year are therefore exempted from strict control measures;
- Industry (in consultation with the UK Rapporteur for the TRI risk assessment) agree that such situation needs to be corrected and therefore propose a Voluntary Binding Commitment to avoid supplying users that do not have the right equipment.

<sup>1</sup> European Standard EN 21921-4 Machines for surface cleaning and pretreatment of industrial items using liquids or vapours - Part 4: Safety of machines using halogenated solvents.

### 3.7.1 TYPE I : SEALED SYSTEM

A system in which there is no direct connection between any volume containing a halogenated solvent and the outside environment during normal operation.

#### 3.7.1.1 TYPE Ia: COLLECTION CHAMBER SYSTEM

A system which consists of a collection chamber and one or more process chambers with doors, one door sealing the collection chamber from the process chamber(s), the other from the outside environment.

#### 3.7.1.2 TYPE Ib: SINGLE CHAMBER SYSTEM

A single chamber system consists of a chamber which is used for both processing items and collecting halogenated solvent vapours for recovery.

### 3.7.2 TYPE II : ENCLOSED OPEN SYSTEM

A system in which there is no connection between halogenated solvent and the outside environment during normal operation, including loading and unloading. This consists of one or more open tank(s) within an enclosure. The items are processed through the cleaning machine by means of mechanical handling device and solvent fumes are collected at the inlet and outlet points of the enclosure.

**EUROPEAN  
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