

1.0 Introduction

1.1. Preface and Legal Notice

The information presented in the Phosgene Safe Practice Guidelines Manual (Manual) is a general composite of best practices. The information provided in the Manual should not be considered as a directive or as an industry standard that readers must adopt or follow. Instead, the information is intended to provide helpful ideas and guidance that users may wish to consider in a general sense. It is not intended to be a “how-to” manual, nor is it a prescriptive guide. Users must independently determine what constitutes appropriate practice relative to their own needs and circumstances. In making this determination, users should consider information contained in this Manual as well as other relevant information. Users have an independent obligation to ascertain that their actions are in compliance with their current country, federal, state and local laws and regulations and should consult with legal counsel concerning such matters. Any mention of specific products in this document is for illustration purposes only and is not intended as a recommendation or endorsement of such products by ACC or its member companies. Many items in this document may be trademarked, which may or may not be noted in this document.

The member companies of the American Chemistry Council Phosgene Panel have compiled the information presented in the Manual. Members of the Phosgene Panel include the following:

- BASF Corporation
- SABIC Innovative Plastics
- The Dow Chemical Company
- Bayer Corporation
- DuPont
- VanDeMark Chemicals, Inc.
- Chemtura
- Huntsman

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1.2. Mission Statement

The Phosgene Panel supports the phosgene industry through continuous evaluation of and improvements to safety and the protection of human health and the environment on issues related to the production, distribution and use of phosgene. The Phosgene Panel works with governmental agencies to encourage the use of sound science in developing regulations impacting the industry.

Established in 1972, the Phosgene Panel is composed of companies that manufacture, use or distribute phosgene. Phosgene Panel members account for more than 95% of U.S. production of phosgene - several million tons of material.

The Phosgene Panel is organized under the American Chemistry Council's Chemical Products and Technology Division.

1.3. Panel Goals

- Continuous improvement by phosgene users in the area of safety, health and environmental protection.
- Government regulation of phosgene based on sound science.
- Public recognition of Panel members as responsible stewards of phosgene.

- Precautionary information, such as is presented here, should be provided to all persons who will use, handle or otherwise be exposed to phosgene.
- Continuing to improve the understanding of the adverse health effects of phosgene and fostering improvements in the medical treatment of phosgene exposure.

1.4. Information Updating

1.4.1. Compilation of Options Incorporated into Manual

From time to time, draft summaries of industry best practices may be produced by one or more of the Phosgene Panel member companies as specified by the Phosgene Panel.

The draft will be distributed to the member companies via the American Chemistry Council.

Member companies review the draft and add any additional options they use within their own company.

Responses to the draft are then forwarded to the American Chemistry Council Legal Department for review and then to member company Legal Department for review.

The American Chemistry Council adds identified new and relevant practice to the draft prior to inclusion in the final version of the Manual.

1.4.2. Control of Information

The latest version of Manual will reside on the American Chemistry Council Website. All prior versions of the Manual are considered out of date. The American Chemistry Council and members of the Phosgene Panel assume no responsibility to amend, revise, retract, or update the Manual to reflect information that may be available after posting on the Website.