

# CORDOBA & CHICAGO

**FREE** OF PHTHALATES

NEW GENERATION OF VINYL – CONTRACT QUALITY



## ► what are plasticizer ?

→ a plasticiser is a substance which when added to a vinyl makes it flexible resilient and easier to handle.

## ► what are phthalates ?

→ A family of chemicals, produced from phthalic anhydride and alcohols, frequently used as plasticizers to give flexibility to PVC

→ The most widely used phthalate is di-2-ethyl hexyl phthalate (DEHP) which is the dominant plasticizer used in vinyls. Phthalates are found in many leading beauty care products, including hair spray, deodorant, nail polish and perfume that you may be using everyday. Companies say that the level of phthalates in their products is "safe." That might be true if people were exposed to only one phthalate from one source at a time, but none of us is and the exposures add up. What appears to be a "tolerable" level of exposure to a single phthalate could contribute to an unsafe overall exposure. Phthalates can be absorbed through the skin, inhaled as fumes, ingested when they contaminate food or when children bite or suck on toys, and are inadvertently but directly administered to patients from some PVC medical devices

## ► what are the health concerns ?

→ New studies of the Laboratory at US Environmental Protection Agency has fundamentally changed the perception of potential health risks of phthalates. While high doses constitute risks in the sense of traditional toxicology, low doses of phthalates change the stakes dramatically. One of the key points is DEHP's impact on developing Sertoli cells, which lead to sperm maladies in adulthood, including low sperm count.

→ In May 2005: For the first time, researchers have identified an association between pregnant women's exposure to phthalates and adverse effects on genital development in their male children. source: „Environmental Health Perspectives“ / BBC Health

→ The Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG, German Research Foundation) is funding a research project at the University of Erlangen that is studying the environmental uptake of phthalates in the population. The researchers have demonstrated that humans are exposed to phthalates in far greater quantities than had been previously believed, especially children. In some cases the measurements even exceed the TDI (tolerable daily intake), the highest dose a person can take in on a daily basis over his or her entire lifespan without any harmful effects.

## ► Philosophy AKV:

→ Our answer – contract upholstery vinyl **free of phthalates !**

## CORDOBA & CHICAGO M

FREE OF PHTHALATES a major step in a healthy future

→ The plasticizer used for CORDOBA & CHICAGO M **FREE OF PHTHALATES** are non-toxic and complies with the strictest health regulations. An additional advantage is a far lower migration compared with phthalates plasticizers.

Source: "Fraunhofer Institut für Verfahrenstechnik", Germany

## ► current situation in the EU:

→ 5. Juli 2005: The European Parliament has voted to ban the use of three and restrict the use of another phthalates in all toy and childcare articles.