

Hydrocarbon Solvents and Cumene New Harmonised Classification

This sheet provides information to customers of hydrocarbon solvents UVCB containing Cumene on the implications and consequences of the upcoming new harmonized classification of cumene as carcinogenic 1B (H350)

Regulatory background and legal obligations

Following on Denmark proposal¹, the harmonized classification and labelling of Cumene is changing. As from the 1st of December 2023, with ATP 18² coming into force, Cumene will be classified as Carcinogenic 1B (H350) in addition to its current classification (Flam. Liq. 3 (H226), STOT SE 3 (H335), Asp. Tox. 1 (H304) and Aquatic Chronic 2 (H411))

As a consequence, as from the 1st of December 2023:

- Cumene will be added to the substance subject to REACH restriction Entry 28 which prohibits placing on the market as substances, as constituents of other substances, or in mixtures to the general public (consumer uses) with the generic concentration limits triggering classification of a mixture as $\geq 0,1$ %.
- All mixtures or UVCBs containing cumene at $\geq 0,1$ % will need to be labeled in accordance with its new classification.
- Cumene might be included as Substance of Very High Concern (SVHC) to the Candidate List. A Regulatory Management Option Analysis (RMOA) will point at most appropriate regulatory steps to be taken to further reduce the risk.

Cumene content in Hydrocarbon Solvents UVCB

The members of HSPA have identified that substances belonging to Categories 1 to 3 of the Naming Convention may contain cumene at a concentration at $\geq 0,1$ %¹.

Each manufacturer of these substances is reviewing and updating their SDS in accordance with the new classification and labelling of Cumene when relevant. The very presence of Cumene at 0.1% or more in these substances will trigger a change of the overall classification of the solvent due to the unavailability of relevant tests on the whole substance.

It is strongly recommended that formulator and downstream users review their suppliers SDS to assess if the classification and labelling of the solvent they are buying has changed because of the presence of cumene.

¹ <https://echa.europa.eu/registry-of-clh-intentions-until-outcome/-/dislist/details/0b0236e18289e5a1>

² <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:32022R0692&from=EN>



Formulators and downstream users are invited to contact directly their suppliers asking for the technical specification and more details on the concentration of cumene if needed. They can then apply dilution factors on cumene content to assess the impact of cumene in their own mixtures and classify in accordance with ATP 18 if necessary.

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About HSPA
The Hydrocarbon Solvents Manufacturers Association
presented the EU manufacturers of those solvents

Endnote i: concerned substances

Category 1 : C9 Aromatics	
Hydrocarbons, C9, aromatics	918-668-5
Hydrocarbons, C9-C10, aromatics >1% naphthalene	946-365-8

Category 2 : C9-12 Aromatics	
Hydrocarbons, C10, aromatics, <1% naphthalene	918-811-1
Hydrocarbons, C10, aromatics, >1% naphthalene	919-284-0
Hydrocarbons, C10-C13, aromatics, <1% naphthalene	922-153-0
Hydrocarbons, C10-C13, aromatics, >1% naphthalene	926-273-4

Category 3 : C9-14 Aliphatics (2-25% Aromatics)	
Hydrocarbons, C10-C13, n-alkanes, isoalkanes, cyclics, aromatics (2-25%)	919-164-8
Hydrocarbons, C11-C14, n-alkanes, isoalkanes, cyclics, aromatics (2-25%)	925-653-7
Hydrocarbons, C12-C16, n-alkanes, isoalkanes, cyclics, aromatics (2-25%)	920-008-6
Hydrocarbons, C9-C10, n-alkanes, isoalkanes, cyclics, aromatics (2-25%)	927-344-2
Hydrocarbons, C9-C12, n-alkanes, isoalkanes, cyclics, aromatics (2-25%)	919-446-0

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