

The Society of the
Plastics Industry, Inc.



State Reporter

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Combustibility

NY Set to Add Disclaimer to Toxicity Data

9/12/86
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Despite a strong push by some members to vote on the toxicity testing proposal at the New York State Uniform Fire Prevention and Building Code Council's August 20 meeting in New York City, action has been postponed until October 15 in Albany. A surprise move came as State Fire Administrator Frank McGarry suggested that the following disclaimer language, drawn in part from the American Society of Testing and Materials, be included in the Code amendment:

This test only measures and describes acute toxicity of thermal decomposition products and test material in response to heat and flame under controlled laboratory conditions. It does not constitute a finding of, or evidence of, nor should it be used to describe or appraise the fire hazard or fire risk of materials, products or assemblies under actual fire conditions. However, results of this may be used as elements of a fire risk assessment which takes into account all factors which are pertinent to an assessment of fire hazard.

The Council's Toxicity Subcommittee tentatively is scheduled to meet in Albany September 17 to finalize the disclaimer and other language affording manufacturers the opportunity to establish representative product testing or classifications of products to reduce the economic burdens of testing individual products. A separate amendment is being offered to the Code Council deleting the "no more toxic than wood" provision currently in the Code, thereby removing the potential for product banning.

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DR. A.S. CUMMIN

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