

ITC measure the biocide dimethylfumarate (DMF) – After banning DMF it is still used...

The biocide dimethylfumarate (CAS number 624-49-7) - an allergen newly regulated by the European Union has been banned from the EU market since 1 May 2009. DMF protects consumer products based on textile, wood and leather during shipment from moulds. Consumer products like boots, inner parts of sofas, furniture, clothes, toys but also desiccant or anti-mould sachets are getting impregnated by DMF before transportation. After distribution of the goods traces of DMF penetrate onto consumers' skin which might cause symptoms ranging from dermal allergic reactions to acute respiratory problems.

According to the decision of the European commission (2009/251/EC), all products which are potential in contact with DMF should be screened in order to allow them on the market. The presence of DMF in consumer products gives serious risks. According to the European parliament and council 98/8/ES, the consumer goods doped with the biocide DMF are not allowed and DMF is not legally available as anti-mould agent in Europe.

The reality is a bit different and the concentration of DMF in consumer products are sometimes very high. According to the European directive 2009/251/EC products or part of the products might not contain DMF at a concentration level higher than 0,1 mg per kg and this since 1 May 2009. ITC offers in this field the possibility to quantify the amount of the banned biocide dimethylfumarate.

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