

PVC and Environment

The PVC is an extremely versatile material with which many products that we used daily are elaborated, some of them are known for everybody, even by being in direct contact with foods, for example: pipes for which water is transported, bottles for water and vegetable oils that use daily in our kitchens, toys that use millions of children, hoses used so much for medical use like for the transport of water, films used in order to preserve the properties of the foods, etc.



Unfortunately, is diffused the idea that the PVC is a toxic and harmful material for atmosphere, mainly for a bad perception of the reality or for the suspicions of toxicity of some materials that until the moment have not been demonstrated in the corresponding studies, but that for political reasons in certain countries don't permit their extended use. The foundations of these attacks to the PVC are:

1. The suspicion that exists for some time that the MVC, monomer well-known like Vinyl Chloride and matter with which the PVC is manufactured, it could be a cancerigen material and that have placed it in the list of substances subject to control and study for FDA (Administration of Drugs and Foods from USA); but it is necessary to clarify that the PVC, product result of their polymerization, has properties completely different and is totally innocuous; also, thanks to the modern techniques of separation, the traces of monomer still present in it, are minimum and its concentration in no way is harmful for the health, as have been checked in diverse studies carried out in the decades in which it have been had in observation.

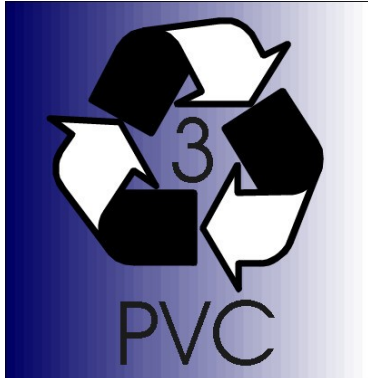


2. On the other hand, the PVC, upon containing Chlorine in its molecular structure, is accused of generating acid rain when is burned in incinerators lacking of a control of emissions that neutralize it in order to form a co-product not noxious; but in its functional form and in normal conditions of operation is a material perfectly stable and innocuous, besides being a way of maintaining the Chlorine generated in other industrial processes in the form of an useful product and that of not being so, it could not be used and it would generate the contamination of which the PVC is accused. Also, the PVC is 100% recyclable and it is re-utilized in the production of a multitude of products of daily use when are had implemented programs of classification and recycling of waste that maintain an identification and suitable cleaning of the materials.

3. Lastly, the PVC base resin with which the film is elaborated has a series of additives (plasticizers, stabilizers, lubricants, pigments, etc.) that impart the properties that characterize it and that with the time could come to emigrate to the surface of the same and go over to the product with which they are in contact; this situation also exists in all the others plastics materials with additives, but if a material is formulated with components carefully chosen using food grade materials and proven like substances that they don't constitute a risk for the health, it is adapted for use in food contact, although it could provide something of odor or flavor to the product that it pack.



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The risk of using PVC is similar to managing paper or glass, but if are had the controls and the care adapted in their handling, use and waste, the damage to the atmosphere is minimum. In what it concerns to the packers, is advisable maintain an appropriate handling of the material mainly when high temperatures are managed because these degrades to the polymer. In the packing process the higher carelessness occurs in the sealed with heat; in order to maintain low the emissions of characteristic smoke of the PVC degradation are primordial the cleaning of the sealing resistance's and of preference a strict control of the temperature that permits the seal to the minor possible temperature. Also it should have the working place sufficiently ventilated, because although these emissions have not proven have adverse effects in the health they are annoying for the operator.



Have the security that the product that you use is totally secure and upon consuming it the same as other products manufactured with PVC, you use one of the thermoplastic material of more peak in our country and with wide horizons to world level.

Theme related links:

- www.institudopvc.org
- www.vinylinfo.org
- www.anig.org.mx/proVinilo/proVinilo.htm

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