

December 2006

***Amendment to the Preparations Directive 2006/8/EC
Situation for mono-alkylphenols***

Recently, the new Commission Directive 2006/8/EC has been published amending the Preparations Directive 1999/45/EC. Among other things, the new Directive introduces revised concentration limits for preparations containing components classified with N; R50/53 in dependence to their respective hazard potency. The Directive 2006/8/EC will need to be transposed into national legislation latest by March 1, 2007.

CEPAD has reviewed the environmental toxicity data for the mono-alkylphenols and concludes that the following substances may be affected by the new Directive:

P-tert. Octylphenol

p-tert octylphenol is not yet listed with a Community wide harmonised classification in Annex I. The environmental classification N; R50/53 including an M factor of 10 is however proposed in the draft 31th ATP which is expected to be published in the course of 2007.

P-tert. Nonylphenol

p-tert nonylphenol is listed with a Community harmonised classification on Annex I with N; R50/53 (Annex I Index number 601-053-00-8). No specific concentration limits for preparations are given. The EU risk assessment, however, states the lowest EC/LC50 for the aquatic environment to be in the range of 100-10 ug/l.

Para tert. Dodecylphenol

p-tert dodecylphenol is not yet listed with a Community wide harmonised classification in Annex I but is on the agenda of the upcoming TC C&L meeting in January 2007 where the discussion will start among the EU member states. The UK authorities acting as rapporteur have proposed a classification as N; R50/53 with an additional M factor of 10 as based on the data that have been generated under the OECD SIDS HPV programme.

CEPAD recommends the users to take this into consideration in reviewing the classification of preparations containing residual levels of the above substances.

