

## PHTHALATES

Phthalates have been most commonly used for the last 50 years as plasticizers, **mainly to give PVC flexibility and softness** but they are also added in glues and lubricants

Phthalates are better known as DEHP, DBP, BBP, DINP, DIDP, DIPP or DNOP.

They are hardly soluble in water but very much when in contact with fats /greases or high degree alcohols.

Their intensive use has brought them under scrutiny, to measure their incidence on health and environment. They are one of most studied chemical substances.

The latest results prove there are significant effects on human fertility and most of all with DEHP. Unfortunately, this is the most popular phthalates within the plastic industry because of the best mechanical characteristics it gives to PVC.

Some countries (USA, Sweden, Denmark...) have stringent requirements on these and fully ban :

- Their use in any product in contact with food
- Import of any food product having the slightest trace of phthalates.

European Union decided on July 5<sup>th</sup>, 2005 that a list of phthalates (DEHP, DBP and BBP) can no longer be used for toys and any child care items.

The other phthalates types (DINP, DIDP and DNOP) are also forbidden in any items that kids could bring to mouth.

***Furthermore, the EU (Directive 2007/19/EC) amended the Directive 2002/72/EC and changed the test procedure for plastic materials and articles intended to come into contact with food.***

*The simulant for milk will from now on be ethanol at 50% instead of distilled water as it will better simulates milk's fatty content; the extraction of phthalates can now be measured.*

**There are no phthalates at all in our rubber hoses for food applications!**

Customers / assemblers should however pay attention to the lubricants or gaskets they use as these may contain phthalates.

CDH/20080213

### Trelleborg Industrie S.A.S

Z.I. La Combaude - 63050 Clermont-Ferrand Cedex 2 - France - tel +33 4 73258181 - fax +33 4 73258909

Société Anonyme au Capital de 9 909 450 Euros- R.C.S. Clermont-Ferrand B 391 933 397

SIRET 391 933 397 00013 - APE 251 E - VAT FR 56 391 933 397

[www.trelleborg.com](http://www.trelleborg.com) [www.trelleborg.com/industrialhose](http://www.trelleborg.com/industrialhose)

