Opportunities to advance no and low inadvertent PCB (iPCB) pigments



Lauren Heine, Ph.D. Amelia Nestler, Ph.D. Anna Montgomery, Ed.D



Goal:

- Reduce PCB levels in the Spokane River,
- Increase recycled content in paper, and
- Maintain the vibrant colors of our printing inks



Chemistry, Challenges, and Opportunities

Yellows: Diarylides iPCB generation Options to reduce iPCBs Options to eliminate iPCBs

Blues & Greens: Phthalocyanines iPCB generation Options to eliminate iPCBs

Opportunities for advancing no and low iPCB pigments



Diarylide yellows

- Share a common structure and common synthesis route
- Example Pigment Yellow (P.Y.):
 - 14
 - 83
 - 12, 13, 17











Process controls reduce iPCBs in diarylide yellows





Alternative pigments eliminate iPCBs from pigment synthesis





Phthalocyanine blues & greens

- Share a common structure and common synthesis route
- Example Pigment Blue (P.B.) and Pigment Green (P.G.):
 - P.B. 15
 - P.B. 15 mixed with yellow
 - P.G. 7





iPCBs: Byproducts from solvents





Alternative solvents eliminate iPCBs from pigment synthesis



Technical Solutions: Any burning questions

Opportunities for advancing no one of and low iPCB pigments

Regulations

- What is reasonable?
- Monitoring & enforcement
- Unintended consequences

Procurement

- Can drive demand but must be actionable, practical
- Unintended consequences

Supply chain engagement

- Process controls: Pigment manufacturers; industry association leadership
- Pigment selection: Pigment / printing ink manufacturers, knowledge of iPCB levels

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Regulations



- Requires specific limits
- Enforcement –
 Stockholm Convention,
 Japan METI study
- Needed alignment– TSCA, Clean Water Act, recycling policies



Procurement

- Regulatory / government
- Private business requirements (e.g. approved materials)
- Value of unified procurement policies
- Reaching consensus
- Is specificity needed for different products?





PCB Limits

Reasonable

Actionable

Measurable

What limit is necessary on pigments to achieve water quality standards in recycling effluent?

Photo by thom masat on Unsplash



Verification





Certification



- Outsource verification requirements
- Simplification for procurement specialists
- Engaging leading brands
- May require additional specifications or not align with your interests



Supply chain engagement



B.S. Halpern (T. Hengl; D. Groll) / Wikimedia Commons



Availability



Flix Trigger, Market pigments, Flickr



Implementation

Regulations

Procurement

PCB limits

Verification

Certification

Supply chain engagement

Availability

Need: Collaborative approach to action





Audience input: Opportunities



Lauren Heine, Ph.D., Iheine@northwestgreenchemistry.org Amelia Nestler, Ph.D., anestler@northwestgreenchemistry.org Anna Montgomery, Ed.D., amontgomery@northwestgreenchemistry.org

