

Summary of the notification of final regulatory action for hexabromocyclododecane – China

Hexabromocyclododecane(HBCD) has been listed in the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs). As a party of Stockholm Convention, China is obliged to eliminate HBCD as soon as possible. In China, HBCD was formerly used mainly as flame retardant.

According to Announcement No.[2016]84 by MEP and 10 other ministries: Announcement on “Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants(POPs):entry into force of the amendment to Annex A to list HBCD”.

Since December 26th, 2016, the production, use, import and export of HBCD have been banned in China except for the followings:

1. The production, use, import and export of HBCD used for expanded polystyrene and extruded polystyrene in buildings (used mainly as flame retardant) will be allowed within the validity of specific exemption. The validity of the specific exemption will be terminated in 5 years after the amendment taking into effect in the country (on December 25, 2021).

2. The production, use, import and export of HBCD used for in laboratory-scale research or as a reference standard will be allowed.