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ISOPA letter to Trade Associations & Downstream USERS of MDI, TDI and polyols on the process followed for the Alignment of Use Descriptors for PU industry

Dear reader,

In order to derive Use Descriptors for PU industry, ISOPA has been working together initially with the key User Trade/Industry Associations to ensure all uses of MDI/TDI and polyols were covered.

In a second phase and after receiving feedback from individual customers, ISOPA has carried out a second alignment exercise with the same associations to resolve the discrepancies and come to a common view on the supported END-USEs and their Use Descriptors for MDI/TDI and polyol substances

In case you are a member of one of these trade associations listed below, you should already have been informed about this second exercise and its outcome. Members that still see discrepancies between the supported and their own uses should inform their Trade Association who can, if required, follow up with ISOPA.


In case your trade associations has not been involved or you have not been updated, you can verify yourself the supported Polyurethane (PU) uses for polyols, TDI and MDI for your industry sector via the link to the ISOPA PU Use Descriptors:

[Link <http://www.isopa.org/isopa/uploads/Documents/documents/ExposureScenarios.pdf>]

Downstream Users that see discrepancies between the supported and their own uses can contact the ISOPA Office Manager [kde@isopa.org].

The following Trade/Industry Associations have been involved to obtain alignment with ISOPA: The organisations **in blue** have given feedback on the ISOPA PU Use Descriptors and have agreed with the current set of supported end-uses. The non coloured organisations have been informed but did not provide feedback. ISOPA has assumed that these associations agree with the ISOPA PU Use Descriptors.

- **PU Europe** (formerly known as BING) [PU Insulation Industry]
 - ANPE
 - BRUFMA
 - Federplast
 - SPU
 - IPUR
 - **IVPU**
 - NVPU
 - **SNPA**
 - Danisch Plastic Federation
- **FEICA** [Adhesives & Sealants].
 - **EFCC** [Construction Chemicals]
- **SNR** [Synthetic Rubber Manufacturers]
- **EUROPUR** [Flexible Foam]

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- [EUROMOULDERS](#) [Moulded Automotive PU Parts]
- [FSK](#) [German PU Plastics Organisation, Flexible, Rigid, Elastomers, TPU]
- [CEPE](#) [Coatings]
- [EPF](#) [Composite Wood Panels]
- [SRM](#) [Solvent Resin Manufacturers]

We would like to draw your attention to some general points:

- We have noticed that some customers simply refer back to the use descriptor documents derived by their trade associations and ask their suppliers (ISOPA members) to simply comply with these. However, we must point out that downstream trade associations are likely to be dealing with more substances than only the PU substances covered by ISOPA. Thus it is possible that they have more intended uses to cover than are relevant to the applications covered by ISOPA. We recommend that you inform your members that simply referring to your Use Descriptor document is not the preferred approach and that only those uses for MDI/TDI and polyols for PU applications need to be covered by ISOPA members. This will help to avoid significantly high resources needs to clarify communication on uses both from supplier and your members
- We have also noticed that there are differences in interpretation with assigning use descriptors and we would like to refer to the ISOPA position paper on the use descriptors. If you do not agree with these, please also let us know ASAP.

[Link to ISOPA position paper on Use Descriptors:
<http://www.isopa.org/isopa/uploads/docs/ISOPApotionUseDescriptor.pdf>]

How to remain aligned:

- If you agree with the ISOPA intended uses, even if they are different from your industry intended uses (because of differences in scope), please update your Use Descriptor document with footnotes to highlight those use descriptors which are not relevant for MDI/TDI/Polyols or make the differences clear to your members by your preferred means, e.g. via letters or website messages.
- ISOPA members will refer customers to their trade associations in case they do not agree with the ISOPA Use Descriptors. This way, the trade association can discuss this internally and when necessary update their own Use Descriptors document, afterwhich they can inform/discuss with ISOPA the changes. This way the downstream trade associations and ISOPA Use Descriptors will remain aligned.