



The current status on the ban of 141-B Solvent

Production or importation prohibited after January 1, 2003

Test and use of aerosol products that already comply should start now

HCFC 141-B, also known as 1,1, -dichloro-1-fluoroethane, is a class II ozone depleting substance that was given an exemption for continued use by the Environmental Protection Agency in 1994. The CAS # 1717-00-6 identifies this chemical. 141-B is scheduled for phaseout in the year 2003. After January 1, 2003 (a bit over 7 months from now), the production and importation of this chemical will be prohibited by the EPA. Fines for violation can be as high as \$25,000.00 per day.

There are a number of alternatives currently in the pipeline for replacing 141-B solvent. The two most talked about are Normal Propyl Bromide (NPB) and 245F.

But both of these alternatives have significant limitations.

It appears that NPB will receive SNAP approval by the EPA. However, OSHA will tag the chemical with a permissible exposure level of 25 parts per million (ppm). This level may be too low for safe and legal use in aerosol products.

245F is a new material that is just coming to market now. While the safety and health issues seem to be favorable with 245F, the initial cost for this solvent is set at over \$5.00 per pound. This cost makes its use in aerosols cost prohibitive for our industry.

Slide Products' position with 141B is to replace it with non-solvent options. We reformulated virtually all of our products years ago to eliminate 141B. We will be reformulating our remaining three products currently using 141-B products with propellant-based options. This will eliminate many of the concerns listed above with some of the solvent alternatives.

Do your current products contain 141B?

Now is the time to start using products that work with your application and that already comply with the new regulation

Some manufacturers currently use 141B as the primary solvent in many of their formulations. But, this fact may not be disclosed on the product. The 141B solvent may instead be identified as a “New Jersey trade secret registry” listing on their Material Safety Data Sheets. We encourage you to call these manufacturers to get the details on their formulations. These same manufacturers have limitations on the propellants they are able to use with and will not have the same flexibility as Slide Products when it comes to reformulating their 141B products.

It is in the manufacturers best interest to immediately start testing aerosol products that have formulations that already meet the new regulations. Waiting for a new, reformulated version of the aerosol product you currently use may negatively impact your manufactured product, may hurt production, and put you in a last-minute scramble to find alternatives that work in your applications.

So, we recommend that you start reviewing your aerosol usage now. Slide Products is happy to provide free samples and MSDS’ listing chemical compositions of all of products, including mold releases, lubricants, cleaners, rust preventives, purging compounds and more for your evaluations.

The logo for Slide Products, featuring the word "SLIDE" in a bold, black, sans-serif font. The letters are thick and blocky, with a registered trademark symbol (®) at the end.

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