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Issue 17

California Proposition 65 (Prop 65)

California Proposition 65 (Prop 65), officially known as the Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986, was enacted as a ballot initiative in November 1986.

This proposition protects the state's drinking water sources from being contaminated with chemicals known to cause cancer, birth defects or other reproductive harm, and requires businesses to inform Californians about exposures to such chemicals. It has a great influence on a wide variety of mass consumer products.

Proposition 65 requires the state to revise and republish – at least once per year – the list of chemicals known to the state to cause cancer or reproductive toxicity.

As the lead agency, the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA) updates the list every year, adds chemicals, removes listed chemicals or leaves the list intact. The list contains a wide range of naturally occurring and synthetic chemicals. These chemicals include additives or ingredients in pesticides, common household products, food, drugs, dyes, or solvents. First published in 1987, the list has evolved to include more than 900 chemicals.

OEHHA has updated the state's Proposition 65 list for the second time in 2023. This latest update, released in April, included the following substances known to be carcinogenic: Leucomalachite green and 1,1,1-Trichloroethane.

For Prop 65 compliance, businesses are required to put an appropriate WARNING label on products which contain listed chemicals.

Trust Chem is committed to providing customers with colorant products that meet the compliance requirements of California Proposition 65. We want to help them prevent potential litigation after the launch of their product, and support them in winning market share in the USA.

