

## EUROPE



### **New EFSA guidance about new substances used in plastics**

On May 8, 2017 the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) published the “Administrative guidance for the preparation of applications for the safety assessment of substances to be used in plastic food contact materials”.

The document provides guidance for submitting applications for authorisation of substances to be used in food contact plastics within the scope of Regulation (EC) No 1935/2004 and according to Commission Regulation (EU) No 10/2011.

Click [here](#) for getting the guidance.

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## EUROPE

### **Updated version of FACET tool available**

The FACET (Flavourings, Additives, and Food Contact materials Exposure Tool) is a freely downloadable tool that provides probabilistic models to estimate dietary exposure to chemical substances from flavours, food additives and food contact materials.

In April 2017, EU Commission’s Joint Research Centre released updated version of FACET version 3.0.2.

Click [here](#) to download FACET version 3.0.2.

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### **Call to revise the Drinking Water Directive**

Nowadays, an EU-wide harmonisation on materials and products in contact with drinking water does not exist.

Different Member States have established their own requirements and approval schemes for materials and products in contact with drinking water.

The European Drinking Water Industrial Alliance (EDW) has called on the European Commission to revise the Drinking Water Directive 98/83/EC to address the lack of harmonised provisions.

The Commission will publish its proposal on the revision of the Drinking Water Directive by the end of 2017.

Click [here](#) for reading the European Drinking Water Alliance position paper.

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## EUROPE- GERMANY



### Release of aluminium ions from uncoated aluminium containers

The German Federal Institute for Risk Assessment (BfR) published a study about the migration of aluminium ions from uncoated aluminium food contact materials on May 29, 2017.

With these research results, BfR has found a high release of aluminium from metal trays into acidic food simulants.

The BfR notes that daily consumption of food stored in uncoated aluminium trays can impact on the overall dietary aluminium exposure and, therefore, increasing the probability of exceeding the tolerable weekly intake (TWI).

For this reason, BfR recommends minimizing exposure to aluminium and moving towards the use of meal trays made of different materials.

Click [here](#) for getting the BfR's publication (in German).

Click [here](#) for getting the EFSA publication about TWI in 2008.

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## US- CALIFORNIA

### Safe level for styrene

The Californian Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA) has adopted a No Significant Risk Level (NSRL) of 27 µg/day for styrene (CAS 100-42-5) after its listing as a carcinogen under Proposition 65 in April 2016.

This NSRL provides the safe harbour level below which no warning label is required on products under Proposition 65.

In response to comments received on polystyrene food packaging, OEHHA stressed that it is only necessary to add a relevant warning if the exposures of styrene exceed its NSRL, while the amount of styrene remaining in the polystyrene food package is quite low in most cases.

For getting the Final Statement of Reasons from the OEHHA click [here](#).

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## US- NEW YORK



### Polystyrene foam packaging Ban

From November 13, 2017 the use of expanded polystyrene for food packaging will be banned in the City of New York.

The main reason for this ban is based on the fact that Food-Service Foam is not capable of being recycled in an "environmentally effective" or an "economically feasible" manner, according to the report published by the NYC Department of Sanitation (DSNY) on May 12, 2017.

Click [here](#) for getting the DSNY report.

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