



## **DfE Green Formulation Initiative for I&I Cleaning Products Project Update 1 December 2004**

### **Progress Report**

**The Design for the Environment Green Formulation Initiative for I&I Cleaning Products** kicked off in September 2004 when the project was funded as a collaborative agreement with the U.S. EPA Design for the Environment Program.

On November 1, an announcement letter was distributed to inform friends of the project's commencement and officially funded status. The letter also invited interested parties to become involved in the project either by taking an active role on one of the two working committees, the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) or Strategic Applications Committee (SAC) or by staying informed and involved as a Project Associate. Response to the letter has been strong. So far, over 150 people have expressed their interest in participating. The list of project associates numbers ~ 100 and we have many volunteers for the Technical Advisory and Strategic Applications Committees. The Steering Committee had its first meeting on Nov. 10. Among the topics discussed was process. All agreed that the process for the project must be open with ample opportunity for review and comment by all participants.

Because of the interest, we have had to modify our strategy to engage the Committees. We are inviting all participants to comment on draft documents and Requests for Comment. We trust that the Committees will reduce in size once the hard work begins and that we will have a core team of manageable size.

### **Next Steps**

- The Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) will be co-chaired by Jack Hamilton of JohnsonDiversey and Lauren Heine. In addition to the primary membership, task teams with special expertise will be recruited at various times during the project to support the TAC in its review of specific ingredient classes and criteria.
- We are preparing a Request for Comments (RfC) that will be distributed to all project participants to solicit input about criteria for positive surfactants. We expect to email this out either just before or after the holidays. Please watch for this RfC as it will be the foundational document from which we select positive attributes for surfactant ingredients in I&I cleaning products and the criteria by which the attributes will be measured. We will send out the RfC and set a deadline for comments. The TAC will then compile the input, prepare a straw set of criteria and we will send it out again for comments.
- A website is under development via the GreenBlue website where we can provide more information on the project, important dates, committee roles and responsibilities and progress updates.

## News

Outreach for the DfE GFI project continued through December and the response has been very positive. Lauren presented at the Engineers Forum on Sustainability at the National Academy of Engineering, presented a poster at the Society for Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry (SETAC) World Congress, and met with the Environmental Fate Subcommittee of the Soap and Detergent Association.

On November 24, CMM Online published an article on the DfE Green Formulation Initiative for I&I Products entitled “Green Chemical Program Launches”:

[http://www.cmmonline.com/news.asp?mode=4&N\\_ID=51605](http://www.cmmonline.com/news.asp?mode=4&N_ID=51605)

On November 22, an article by Elizabeth Wiese on green chemistry in industry entitled “Green Chemistry Takes Root” appeared on the cover of the Life Section in USA Today:

[http://www.usatoday.com/news/science/2004-11-21-green\\_x.htm](http://www.usatoday.com/news/science/2004-11-21-green_x.htm)

## Request for Input

We are using this section of the Project Update to request specific input from Project Associates. For now, please stay tuned for the Request for Comments.

We are very grateful for your interest and participation in this project.

Enjoy the holidays!

Lauren Heine