



Policies Informed by Greener Chemistry, How to Accelerate Application of Safer Processes

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Overview

- Why alternatives assessment
- What is alternatives assessment
 - Definitions and frameworks
 - Goals and considerations
- Principles and main elements of alternatives assessment
- Evolution of the scientific literature on alternatives assessment
- Policies and applications of alternative assessments
- Example: Massachusetts Toxics Use Reduction Institute's approach
- Moving from alternatives assessment to green chemistry
- Lessons learned and additional resources

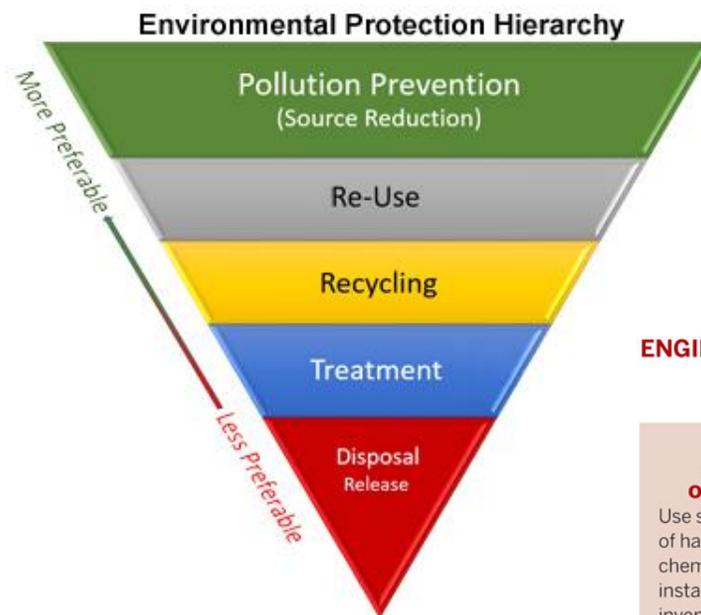
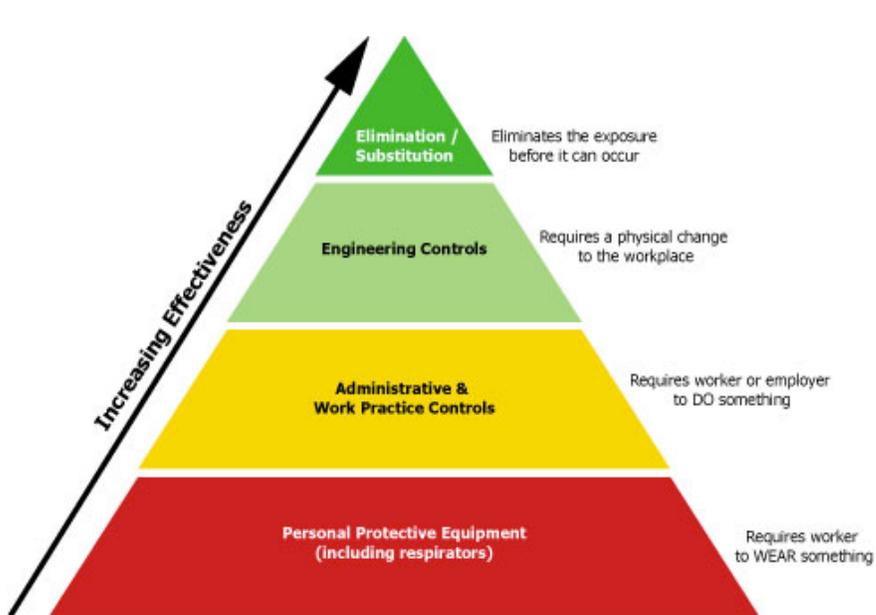
About me...



Drivers of safer chemicals

- Impacts/clean up costs of existing problem chemistries
- Legislation/regulations
- Market demand to “avoid” chemicals of concern
- Consumer advocacy
- Evolution of science/tools
- Increasing focus on sustainability, circularity and potential trade-offs

The focus on safer chemistry is consistent with years of practice in chemicals management and essential for effective product stewardship



ENGINEERING CONCEPT Four paths define inherently safer design.



SOURCES: Kletz, Trevor: "Process Plants: A Handbook for Inherently Safer Design"; American Institute of Chemical Engineers: "Inherently Safer Chemical Processes"

Starting point for transitioning to safer chemistry

- Know what's in it
- Know function and application
- Know hazards and potential exposures and other “concerns”

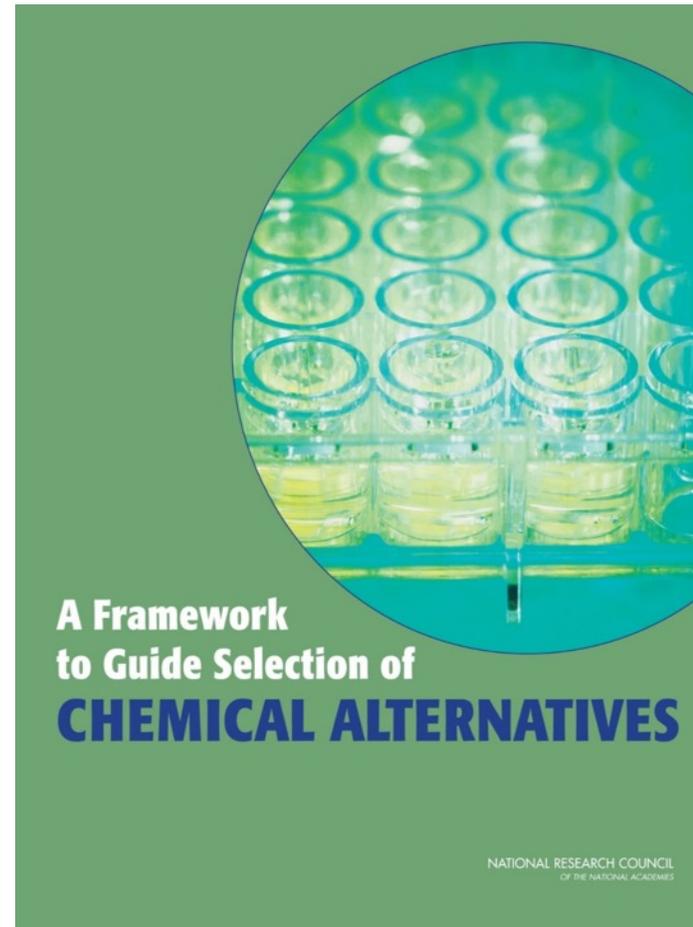
Then....

- Thoughtfully compare options (including trade-offs) to meet a particular functional need – alternatives assessment
- If better options don't exist, employ tools of green chemistry to design new ones

What is alternatives assessment?

“A process for identifying, comparing, and selecting safer alternatives to chemicals of concern on the basis of their hazards, comparative exposure, performance, and economic viability”

- NAS 2014



NAS 2014: Alternatives Assessment

Is:

- is a process for identifying, comparing and selecting safer alternatives to chemicals of concern.
- has a goal of facilitating an informed consideration of the advantages and disadvantages of alternatives to a chemical of concern.

Is not:

- a *safety assessment*, where the primary goal is to ensure that exposure is below a prescribed standard.
- a *risk assessment* where risk associated with a given level of exposure is calculated.
- a *sustainability assessment* that considers all aspects of a chemicals' life cycle, including energy and material use.

Goal is Informed Substitution

EPA - 2010

A considered transition from a chemical of particular concern to safer chemicals or non-chemical alternatives.

The goals of informed substitution are to:

- Minimize the likelihood of unintended consequences, which can result from a precautionary switch away from a chemical of concern without fully understanding the profile of potential alternatives (including performance), and
- Enable a course of action based on the best information - on the environment and human health - that is available or can be estimated.

Regrettable Substitutions

A Few Examples

EDF Health

About this blog



Science, health, and business experts at Environmental Defense Fund comment on chemical and nanotechnology issues of the day.

Our work: [Chemicals](#)

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Search

Regrettable, if predictable: Bisphenol S mimics estrogen just like its better-studied cousin, bisphenol A

By RICHARD DENISON | BIO | Published: JANUARY 17, 2013

Richard Denison, Ph.D., is a Senior Scientist.

A rule of thumb in chemistry is that chemicals that look alike will more often than not act alike. (If it looks like a duck ...) Indeed, when chemical companies are faced with testing requirements for one of their chemicals, they routinely argue that they should be allowed to submit test data on a structurally related chemical instead.

So when it was revealed that companies making products (such as thermal receipt paper) that contain the estrogen-mimicking compound bisphenol A (BPA) were switching to another chemical called bisphenol S (BPS), many scientists' eyebrows quickly arched.

Take a look at these two chemical structures:



Methylene chloride & 1-Bromopropane (NPB)



Lynne Peeples ♥ Become a fan ✉ 🐦 👍

lynne.peeples@huffingtonpost.com

New Flame Retardants, Other Replacement Chemicals, Pose Same Problems As Predecessors

Posted: 11/28/2012 12:04 pm EST | Updated: 11/28/2012 10:06 pm EST

Focus of Alternatives Assessment

Alternatives assessment is a step-defined, action-oriented process

- Focus on function not the particular chemical
 - Focus on “intrinsic impact reduction”
 - Considers the “necessariness” of a chemical
- Finding a safer alternative and getting industry to adopt the use of it are not the same thing.
 - Must also be affordable and effective
- In some cases, safer, feasible alternatives may not exist and need to be developed

Function

The starting point of Alternatives Assessment

Table 1. Functional Substitution for Chemicals in Products, Chemicals in Processes

Functional Substitution Level	Chemical in Product Bisphenol-a in Thermal Paper	Chemical in Process Methylene Chloride in Degreasing Metal Parts
Chemical Function (Chemical Change)	Is there a functionally equivalent chemical substitute (i.e., chemical developer)? Result: Drop-in chemical replacement	Is there a functionally equivalent chemical substitute (i.e., chlorinated solvent degreaser)? Result: Drop-in chemical replacement
End Use Function (Material, Product, Process Change)	Is there another means to achieve the function of the chemical in the product (i.e., creation of printed image)? Result: Redesign of thermal paper, material changes	Is there another means to achieve the function of the process (i.e., degreasing)? Result: Redesign of the process (e.g., ultrasonic, aqueous)
Function As Service (System Change)	Are cash register receipts necessary? Are there alternatives that could achieve the same purpose (i.e. providing a record of sale to a consumer)? Result: Alternative printing systems (e.g., electronic receipts)	Is degreasing metal parts necessary? Are there other alternatives that could achieve the same purpose (i.e., providing metal parts free of contaminants for other end uses)? Result: Alternative metal cutting methods

Tickner, et al,
Environmental Science
and Technology, 2014

Three Essential Steps of Alternatives Assessments (O'Brien 2000)

“One of the most essential, and powerful steps to change is understanding that there are alternatives”

1. Presentation of a full range of alternatives
2. Presentation of the potential adverse effects of each option
3. Presentation of potential benefits of each option

Commons Principles for Alternatives Assessment

www.bizngo.org/alternatives-assessment/commons-principles-alt-assessment

- Reduce Hazard
- Minimize Exposure
- Use Best Available Information
- Require Disclosure and Transparency
- Resolve Trade-Offs
- Take Action

THE COMMONS PRINCIPLES FOR ALTERNATIVES ASSESSMENT

Addressing Chemicals of Concern to Human Health or the Environment

In October 2012, a group of 26 environmental health scientists, advocates, funders and policy makers met in Boston, Massachusetts for two days of meetings entitled **Building a Chemical Commons: Data Sharing, Alternatives Assessment and Communities of Practice**. One of the key outcomes of this meeting was an agreement regarding the need for a common definition and set of principles for chemicals alternatives assessment. Following this meeting, a subcommittee met over four months in 2013 to refine a consensus set of principles. These principles were based on earlier foundational work by the Lowell Center for Sustainable Production, the Massachusetts Toxics Use Reduction Institute, the Environmental Defense Fund, and the BizNGO Working Group. These principles are now available to be shared and used in framing discussions about alternatives assessment and to guide decision making about safer chemical use.

Alternatives Assessment is a process for identifying, comparing and selecting safer alternatives* to chemicals of concern (including those in materials, processes or technologies) on the basis of their hazards, performance, and economic viability. A primary goal of Alternatives Assessment is to reduce risk to humans and the environment by identifying safer choices.

These Principles for Alternatives Assessment are designed to guide a process for well informed decision making that supports successful phase out of hazardous products, phase in of safer substitutes and elimination of hazardous chemicals where possible.

REDUCE HAZARD Reduce hazard by replacing a chemical of concern with a less hazardous alternative. This approach provides an effective means to reduce risk associated with a product or process if the potential for exposure remains the same or lower. Consider reformulation to avoid use of the chemical of concern altogether.

MINIMIZE EXPOSURE Assess use patterns and exposure pathways to limit exposure to alternatives that may also present risks.

USE BEST AVAILABLE INFORMATION Obtain access to and use information that assists in distinguishing between possible choices. Before selecting preferred options, characterize the product and process sufficiently to avoid choosing alternatives that may result in unintended adverse consequences.

REQUIRE DISCLOSURE AND TRANSPARENCY Require disclosure across the supply chain regarding key chemical and technical information. Engage stakeholders throughout the assessment process to promote transparency in regard to alternatives assessment methodologies employed, data used to characterize alternatives, assumptions made and decision making rules applied.

RESOLVE TRADE-OFFS Use information about the product's life cycle to better understand potential benefits, impacts, and mitigation options associated with different alternatives. When substitution options do not provide a clearly preferable solution, consider organizational goals and values to determine appropriate weighting of decision criteria and identify acceptable trade-offs.

TAKE ACTION Take action to eliminate or substitute potentially hazardous chemicals. Choose safer alternatives that are commercially available, technically and economically feasible, and satisfy the performance requirements of the process/product. Collaborate with supply chain partners to drive innovation in the development and adoption of safer substitutes. Review new information to ensure that the option selected remains a safer choice.

* Safer Alternative: An option, including the option of not continuing an activity, that is healthier for humans and the environment than the existing means of meeting that need. For example, safer alternatives to a particular chemical may include a chemical substitute or a re-design that eliminates the need for any chemical addition." From Tickner, J. and Eliason, P. *Alternatives Assessment for Chemicals: From Problem-Evaluation to Solutions-Assessment and Implementation: A background paper created expressly for use in the March 31-April 1, 2011 Interagency Discussion on Alternatives Assessment, EPA Potomac Yards Conference Facility, Crystal City, VA, March 24, 2011*

Table 1. Elements of AA—A snapshot

Component		What it involves
Assessment	Scoping, problem formulation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Establishes the scope and plan for the assessment – Identifies stakeholders to engage and the decision rules that will guide the assessment – Gathers data on the chemical of concern, its function and application
	Identify alternatives	– Identifies alternatives to be considered based on the functional needs in the application currently being performed by the chemical of concern
	Hazard assessment	– Evaluates the human health and ecological hazards for each alternative compared to the chemical of concern
	Exposure characterization	– Evaluates the intrinsic exposure potential for each alternative on the basis of boundaries established in the problem formulation step
	Technical feasibility assessment	– Assesses the performance of alternatives against the requirements established during the problem formulation step
	Comparative economic feasibility assessment	– Assesses the economic feasibility of alternatives against the requirements established during the problem formulation step
	Other life cycle considerations	– Addresses additional factors critical for characterizing effects to human health and the environment beyond those included in the hazard and exposure assessment component to avoid risk trade-offs (e.g., energy, climate change effects, etc.)
	Decision making	– Identifies acceptable alternatives on the basis of information compiled in previous steps – Addresses situations in which no alternatives are currently viable by initiating research and development to generate new alternatives or improve existing options – Establishes an implementation plan
Action	<i>Adoption</i>	– Implementation of the safer, feasible alternative and identification of any potential trade-offs and continuous improvement opportunities
	<i>Link to safer chemistry and/or technology research and development</i>	– When no safer, feasible alternative is identified, research and development should be initiated

Source:
Tickner et al. IEAM
2018

Source: Expands on the NRC (2014) framework by including additional details on technical, economic assessment and decision making that is inclusive of other AA frameworks, such as the Interstate Chemicals Clearinghouse Alternatives Assessment Guidance, V. 1.1 (IC2 2017).

AA Methods and Tools

Comparative Hazard Assessment

- Most developed
- Data gaps remain a challenge

Economic Assessment

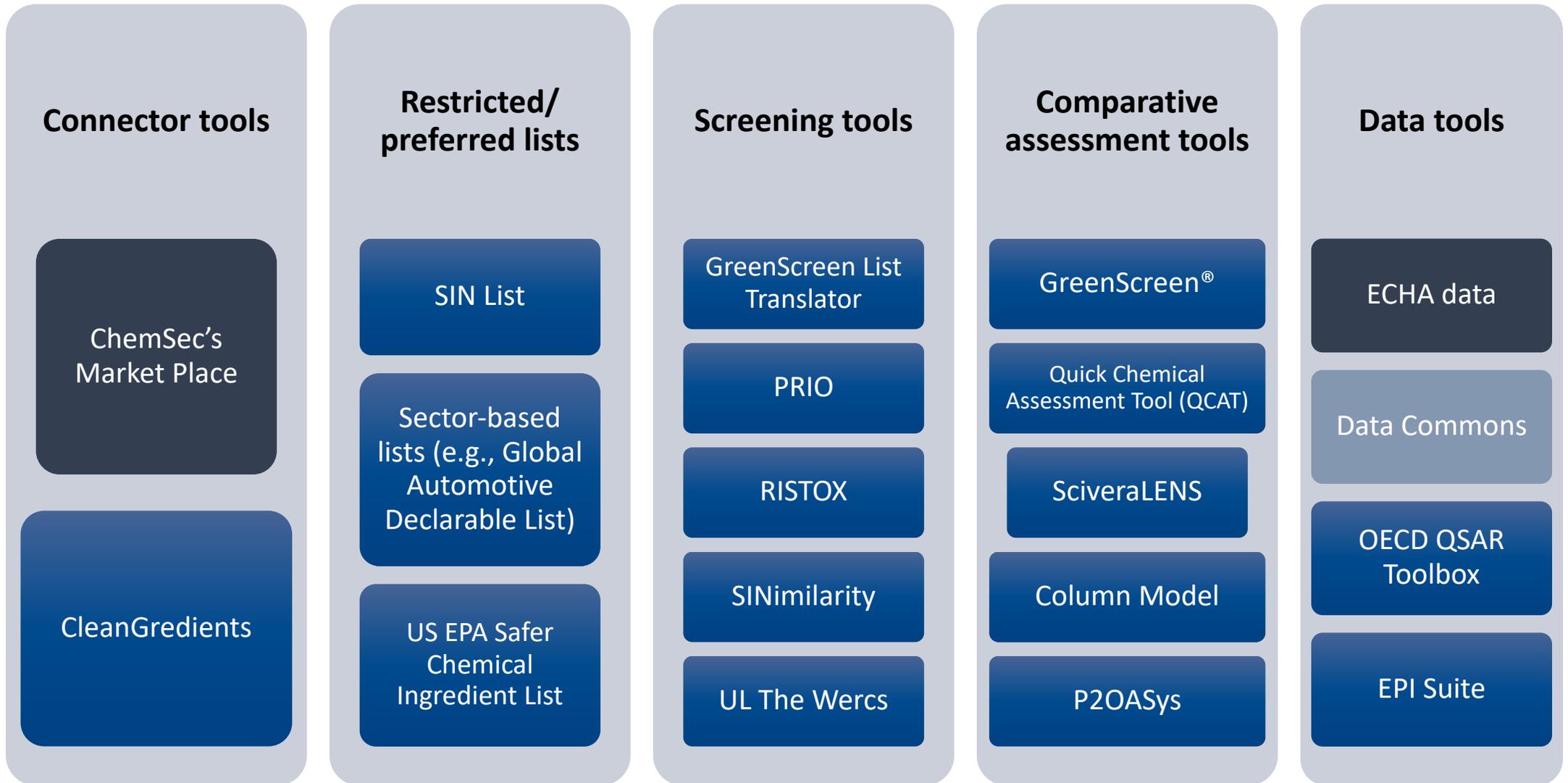
- More “academic” socio-economic analysis methods available, but difficult for SMEs to use
- Limited tools

Technical Performance

- Very limited
- Case/application-specific

Lifecycle considerations, comparative exposure characterization and decision analysis, but tools specific for AA limited.

Landscape of Hazard Assessment Tools (Not comprehensive, or mutually exclusive)



OECD Substitution and Alternatives Assessment Tool Selector

The Tool Selector is designed to provide information on tools that can be used in conducting chemical substitutions or alternatives assessments. The filters below may be used to identify tools of greatest relevance to your substitution or alternatives assessment goals. You may also view more in-depth information on each tool, or a side-by-side comparison of a set of tools, by selecting two or more tools from the list below.

All tools included in the Tool Selector address **chemical hazard assessment**, and may address other comparative attributes.

Tools that contain a repository of organized information but do not have a mechanism for data manipulation for outside users are flagged below as data sources using the following symbol: 

For information on tools with a primary focus on non-hazard comparative attributes such as cost/benefits and availability, life-cycle impacts, and materials management, please visit the [Inventory of Non-Hazard Assessment Tools](#).

Each tool has its benefits and limitations. The user of this toolbox needs to understand the capabilities of the tools to make the most informed decisions about conducting alternatives assessments.

What's an Alternatives Assessment Tool?

A tool is an approach for evaluating a chemical, material, process, product, and/or technology for attribute analysis within a chemical substitution/alternatives assessment.



There is a need to address remaining gaps in methods and practice and build a community of practice

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1

Decision Analysis

Advancing Alternatives Assessment for Safer Chemical Substitution: A Research and Practice Agenda

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ABSTRACT

Alternatives assessment has emerged as a science policy field that supports the evaluation and adoption of safer chemistries in manufacturing processes and consumer products. The recent surge in the development and practice of alternatives assessment has revealed notable methodological challenges. Spurred by this need, we convened an informal community of practice comprising industry experts, academics, and scientists within government and nongovernmental organizations to prioritize a research and practice agenda for the next 5 years that, if implemented, would significantly advance the field of alternatives assessment. With input from over 40 experts, the agenda outlines specific needs to advance methods, tools, and guidance in 5 critical areas: hazard assessment, comparative exposure characterization, life cycle considerations, decision making, and professional practice. Fifteen research and practice needs were identified, ranging from relatively simple efforts to define a minimum hazard data set to the development of more complex performance and decision-analytic methods and data

Alternatives Assessment in Policy

Regulatory policies

- Require alternatives assessment to demonstrate availability or lack of safer feasible alternatives to a chemical of concern (REACH, CA SCP)
- Require alternatives assessment to support regulatory actions (WA, ME, OR)
- Integrate safer alternatives considerations in procurement (SF)
- Require facility planning that examines alternatives (MA TURA)
- Classification-based substitution requirements (EU occupational)

Non-regulatory programmatic support policies

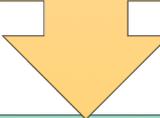
- Conduct assessments for priority chemicals (WA, EPA DfE, TURI)
- Provide technical support, demonstration, networking, training (TURI)
- Provide data, positive listing, labeling (EPA Safer Choice)

Addressing adoption of safer alternatives – the Massachusetts Toxics Use Reduction Institute approach

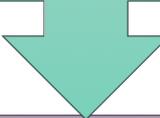
- Train professionals on how to do assessments, providing tools
- Evaluate alternatives to chemicals of concern in the state
- Support supply chain engagement to address adoption challenges
- Fund collaborative research to identify safer, cost-effective new technology options.

Tools for Finding and Assessing Safer Solvent Alternatives

Identifying safer parts cleaning solutions: www.cleansolutions.org



Gathering data to support evaluation process: <http://guides.turi.org/beyondmsds>



Comparing chemical, product and process alternatives: <https://p2oasys.turi.org/>

CleanerSolutions.org

You can find a wealth of

CleanerSolutions Database

Simple Solutions for Surface Cleaning

[More about CleanerSolutions](#)

[Ask your cleaning questions today!](#)

TURI Labo

Results are link matches your

[Find your contaminant](#)

[Replace cleaner.](#)

[Safety environmental](#)

[Browse industry.](#)

[Part Design part shape, size](#)

Find a Cleaner

Search for a cleaner that has successfully removed a contaminant similar to your own. Chances are that the alternative will also work for you. Optionally, you can add substrate and equipment criteria to help narrow your search.

Required Field

You must select one or more contaminants.

- Contaminant
- Abrasive
 - Abrasives
 - Adhesive
 - Alcohol
 - Buffing/Polishing Comp
 - Calcium/lime
 - Carbon Deposits
 - Clay
 - Coatings
 - Cutting/Tapping Fluids
 - Dirt
 - Films

Optional Fields

Filter your search by substrate or equipment type, or leave these fields set to *Any* to include all results for a given contaminant.

- Substrate
- Any
 - Alloys
 - Alumina
 - Aluminum
 - Brass
 - Carbon Fiber
 - Carbon Steel
 - Ceramics
 - Chrome
 - Cold Rolled Steel
 - Copper
 - Electronics

- Equipment
- Any
 - High Pressure Spray
 - Immersion/Soak
 - Low Pressure Spray
 - Manual Wipe
 - Mechanical Agitation
 - Media Blasting
 - Plasma
 - Steam
 - Supercritical Extraction
 - Ultrasonics
 - Vapor Degreasing

All Fields Hold down the *shift* or *ctrl* keys to select multiple values.

Optional Search Filters

Welcome to P2OASys

Get Started



What is P2OASys?

P2OASys allows companies to assess the potential environmental, worker, and public health impacts of alternative technologies aimed at a systematic thinking about the potential hazards posed by current and alternative processes identified during the TUR planning process. It

Systematically examine the potential environmental and worker impacts of options, examining the total impacts of process changes,

Compare options with current processes based on quantitative and qualitative factors.

Embedded formulas in P2OASys provide a numerical hazard score for the company's current process and identified options, which can be used by experts to make decisions on adoption of alternatives. Companies input both quantitative and qualitative data on the chemical toxicity, a organization likely as a result of the proposed option.

Any question or comments can be directed at Jason Marsh



Jason Marshall:
Tel: (978) 934-3133
Email: Jason@turi.org

This web site is maintained by the Toxics Use Reduction Institute at the
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University of Massachusetts Lowell
600 Suffolk Street
Lowell, Massachusetts 01854-2866
Tel: 978-934-3275 Fax: 978-934-3050

Welcome to the P2OASys Tool!

Information about P2OASys can be found on the TURI webpage [here](#).

Create New Assessment

Load From P2OASys
Database

Name	P2OASys Format	SDS Format	Remove
Sample Chemical	Enter Data	Enter Data	Remove

Assessment Score
Summary

Compare Entered Data

Upload A Chemical/Product to the P2OASys Database

Upload A Mixture to the P2OASys Database

Export Data to CSV

Import Data from CSV

Hazard Score Matrix

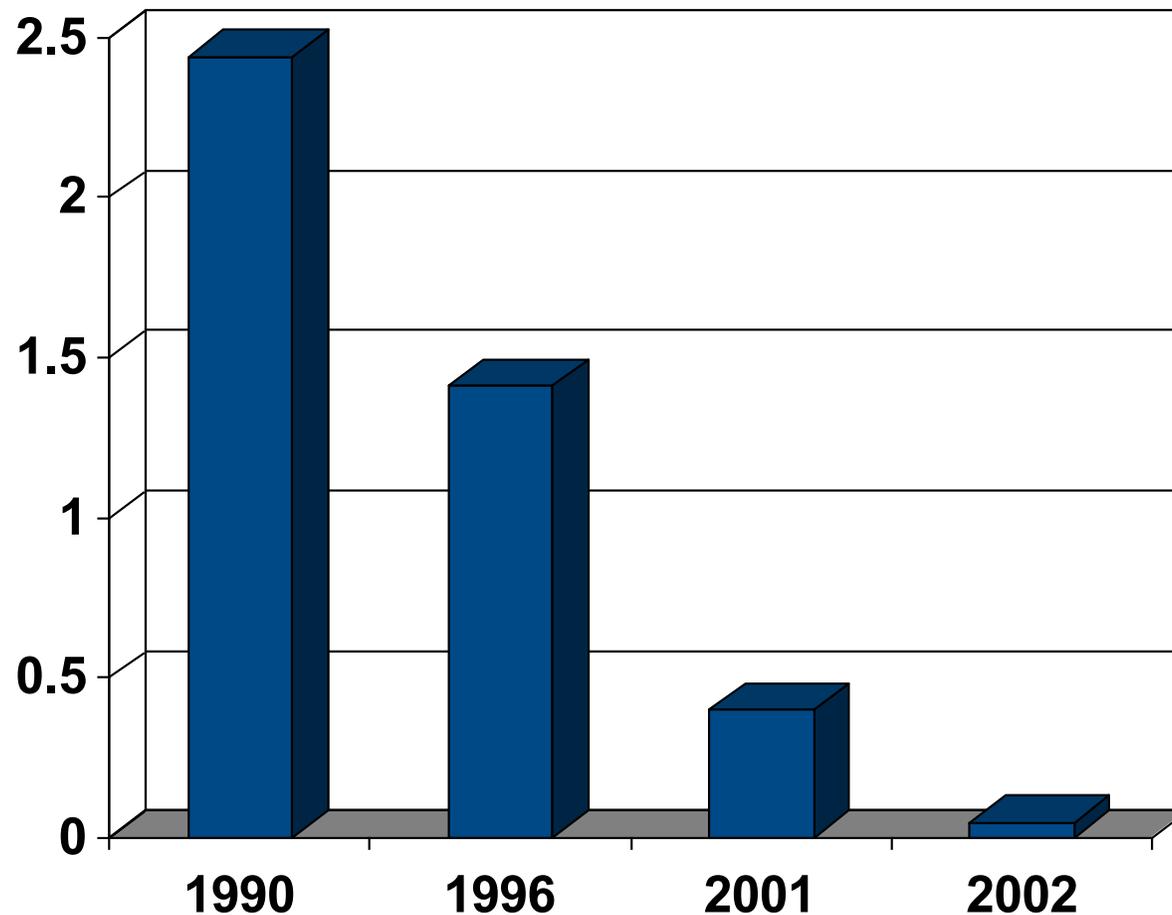
<https://p2oasys.turi.org/>



SERDP • ESTCP
SYMPOSIUM
#SerdpEstcp2019

Case Study: Trichloroethylene

The Result of the Massachusetts Toxics Use Reduction Planning and Technical Support Process



Trichloroethylene
Cleaning Use Data

■ millions of pounds

Case Study: Perchloroethylene

Uses in Massachusetts

- **Garment cleaning (professional dry cleaning)**
- Industrial vapor degreasing
- Automotive aerosols

Why Higher Hazard Substance

- Neurotoxin
- Skin and eye irritant; Causes defatting of skin
- Liver, Kidney and CNS damage
- Carcinogen (NTP: Reasonably anticipated to be a human carcinogen; IARC Group 2A Probably carcinogenic to humans)
- Toxic to aquatic organisms

Alternatives Evaluated

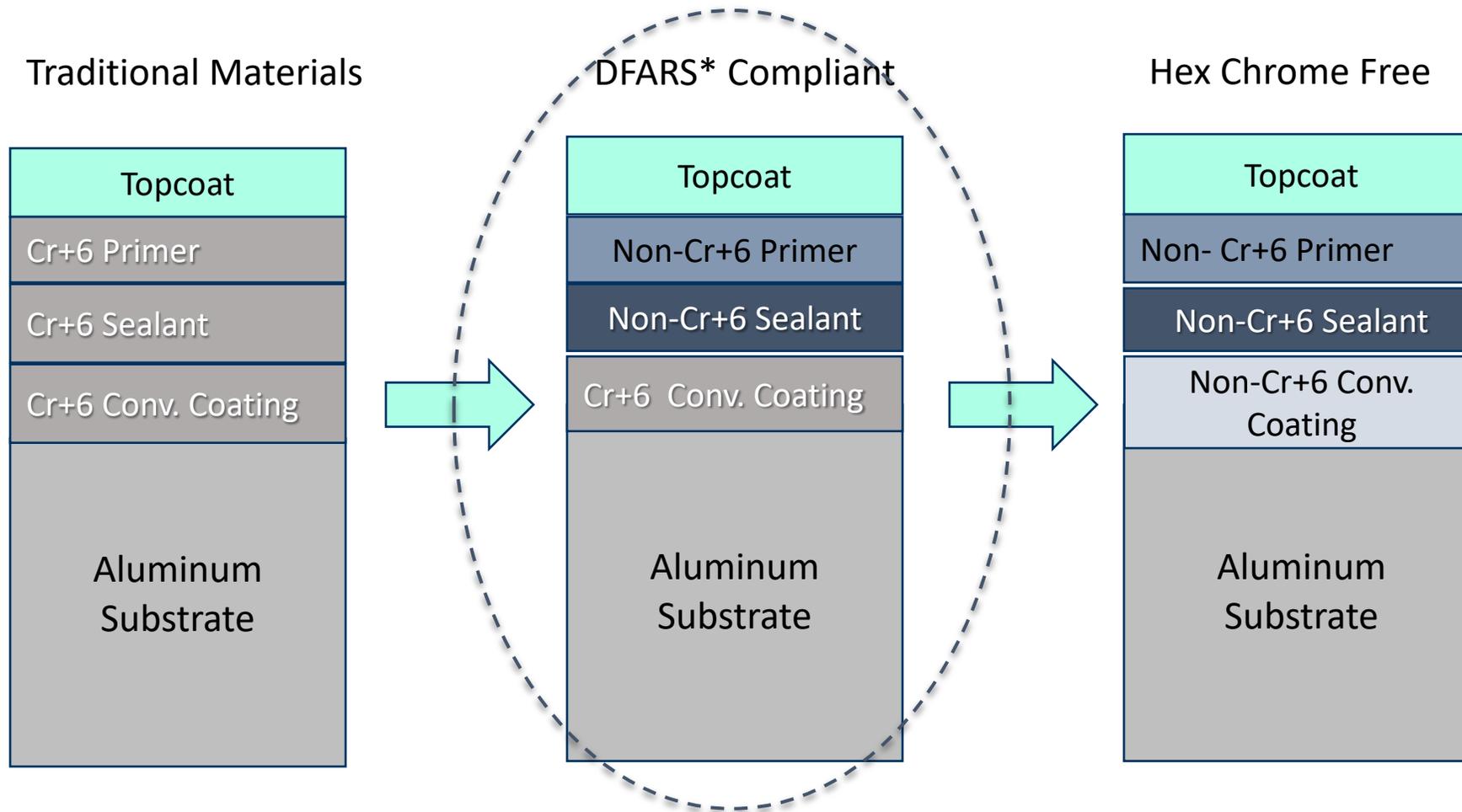
- n Propyl bromide
- Siloxane (D5)
- Propylene glycol ethers
- Acetal (Solvon K4)
- High flashpoint hydrocarbons
- Liquid CO₂
- Wet Cleaning

Summary Table: Comparison of Perc and Seven Garment Cleaning Alternatives

Key Assessment Criteria		Perc (reference)	Wet Cleaning ¹	Carbon Dioxide	High Flashpoint Hydrocarbons	Acetal	Propylene Glycol Ethers	Siloxane	n Propyl Bromide
Common Trade Names / Manufacturers of Equipment or Solvents			Wascomat, Miele, Continental, HwaSung, AquaSolo	Cool Clean Technologies, Solvair*	DF2000™ Fluid, EcoSolv*, ShellSol D60, Caled Hydrodene	Solvon K4	Solvair*, Rynex 3*, Impress*, Gen-X*	Green Earth* D5 solvent	Drysolv*, Fabrisolv™ XL
Solvent Chemical Identification [CAS#]		Perchloroethylene [127-18-4]	Solvent: Water Detergents: See full report ¹	Carbon Dioxide [124-38-9]	Naphtha (petroleum) hydrotreated heavy [64742-48-9]; C10-C13 isooalkanes [6851-17-7]	1-(butoxy methoxy) butane (butyle) [2968-90-3]	dipropylene glycol tert-butyl ether, [532739-11-2]; di-propylene glycol n-butyl ether, [29911-28-2]	Decamethylcyclopenta siloxane (D5) [541-02-6]	N Propyl Bromide (nPB) [106-94-5]
Technical / Performance ²	Cycle time (min)	45	20-40	35-45	60-75	60-65	>45	53-58	45
	Load capacity (lb)	50	20-75	60	35-90	40-90	43	55	50
	Materials system may have difficulty with	Leather, suedes, beads, delicates	Leather, suede and fur	Triacetates, specially dyed acetates	Vinyl appliques	Appliqués or decorations glued to fabric	None identified	None identified	Leather, suedes, beads, delicates
	Spotting requirements	Moderate	Low	High	Moderate	Low	Low	High	Low
Financial	Equipment	\$40,000 - \$65,000	\$36,000 - \$61,000	\$100,000 - >\$150,000	\$38,000 - \$75,000	\$50,000 - \$100,000	\$56,000	\$30,500 - \$55,000	\$40,000 - \$60,000 or retrofit costs
	Chemical cost per gallon	\$17	\$0.007/gal (water); \$25-\$31/gal (detergent)	\$0.18/lb (CO ₂); \$40/gal (detergent)	\$14-\$17	\$28-\$34	\$25-\$30	\$22-\$28	\$40-\$64
	Electricity usage ³ (kWh/100 lb)	26.6	9.3	30.9	35.5	Similar to hydrocarbon	Unavailable	54.2	Unavailable
	Typical cost per pound cleaned ⁴	\$0.63-\$1.94 avg. \$1.02	\$0.57-\$1.32 avg. \$1.10	\$1.40	\$0.73-\$1.02 avg. \$0.88	Unavailable	\$1.14	\$1.08-\$2.33 avg. \$1.71	Unavailable
Environmental	Persistence ⁵ (water, soil, sediment, air)	M (water), H (soil, sed, air)	L (water, soil, air), M (sed)	NA	L (water, soil, air), M (sed)	L (water, soil, air), M (sed)	L (water, soil, air), M (sed)	L (water, M (soil), H (sed, air)	L (water, soil), M (sed), H (air)
	Bioaccumulation ⁶	Low	Low	NA	Moderate	Low	Low	Moderate	Low
	Aquatic Toxicity ⁷	Moderate	Low to Moderate ⁸	Low	High	Moderate ⁹	Low	High	High
Human Health	Recommended Exposure limits ¹⁰	25 ppm	NE	5000 ppm	100 ppm ¹¹	NE	NE	10 ppm ¹²	10 ppm
	Central Nervous System Effects	Yes	No ¹³	No ¹⁴	Yes	No data available	Yes	Some evidence	Yes
	Carcinogenicity	IARC Probable human carcinogen	Not classified by IARC	Not classified by IARC	Not classified by IARC	Not classified by IARC	Not classified by IARC	Some evidence	Clear evidence in animal studies by NTP
	Reproductive / Developmental Toxicity	Yes	Negligible ¹⁵	No data available	No data available	No data available	No ¹⁶	Studies indicate concern	Yes

Reducing Use of Hexavalent Chromium

Aerospace/Defense Applications

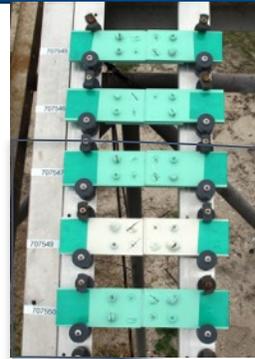


* Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement (May 2011)

Industry Collaborative Performance Testing Approach



Accelerated Corrosion Test, Inspection & Analysis



Long-term Corrosion Test



WORK IN PROGRESS

Evaluating Relative Hazard of Alternatives



Statistical Analysis & Documentation



Test Vehicle Assembly*



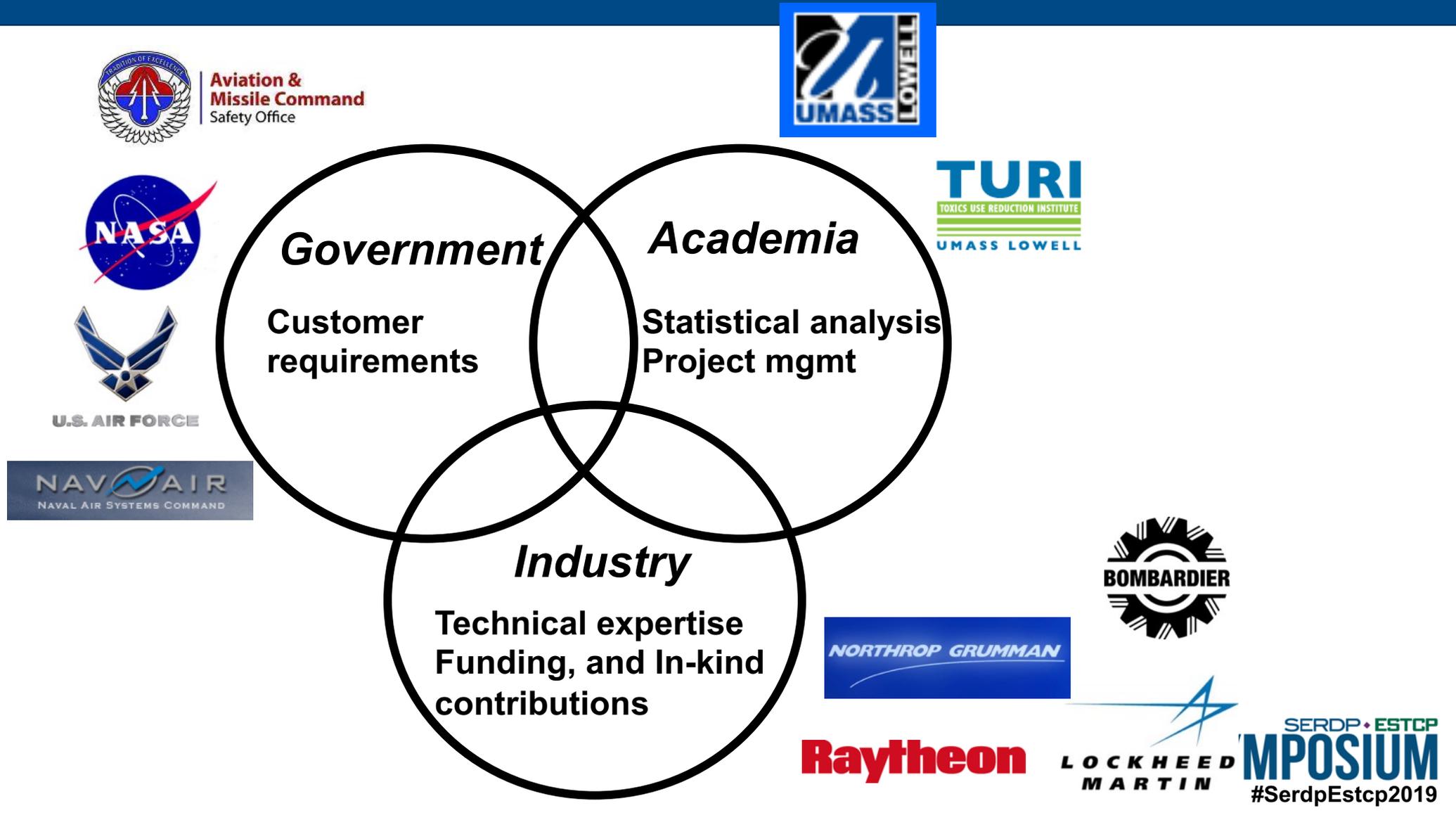
Test Vehicle Preconditioning



Conversion Coating

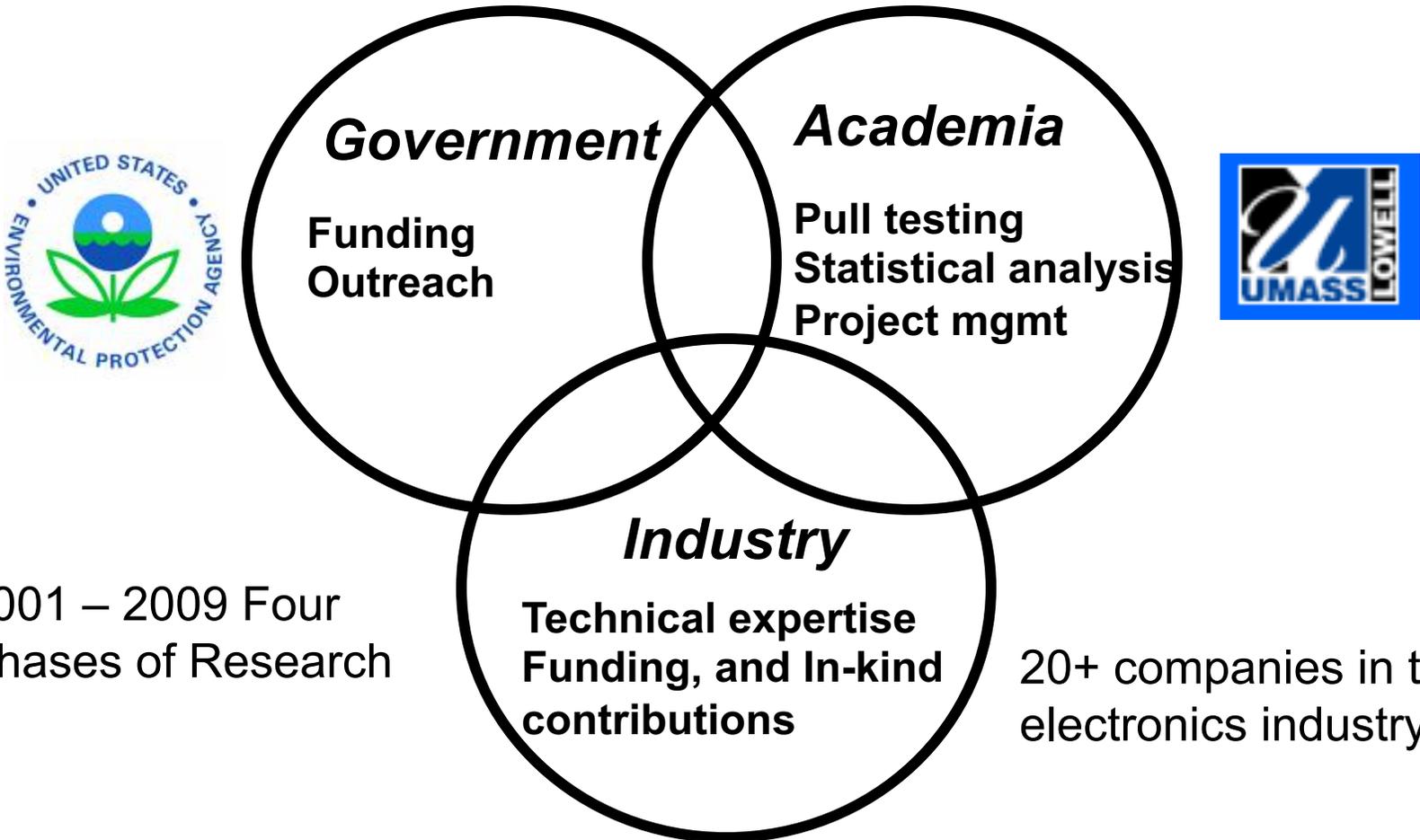


Hex Chrome Free Sealant Evaluation Team



New England Lead-free Electronics Consortium

\$1.5 million total in direct funding and in-kind contributions



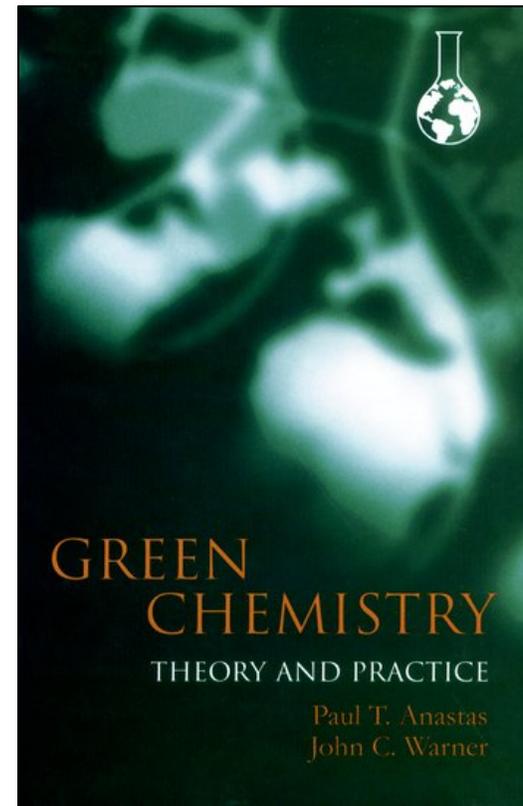
2001 – 2009 Four Phases of Research



Sometimes new solutions need to be designed

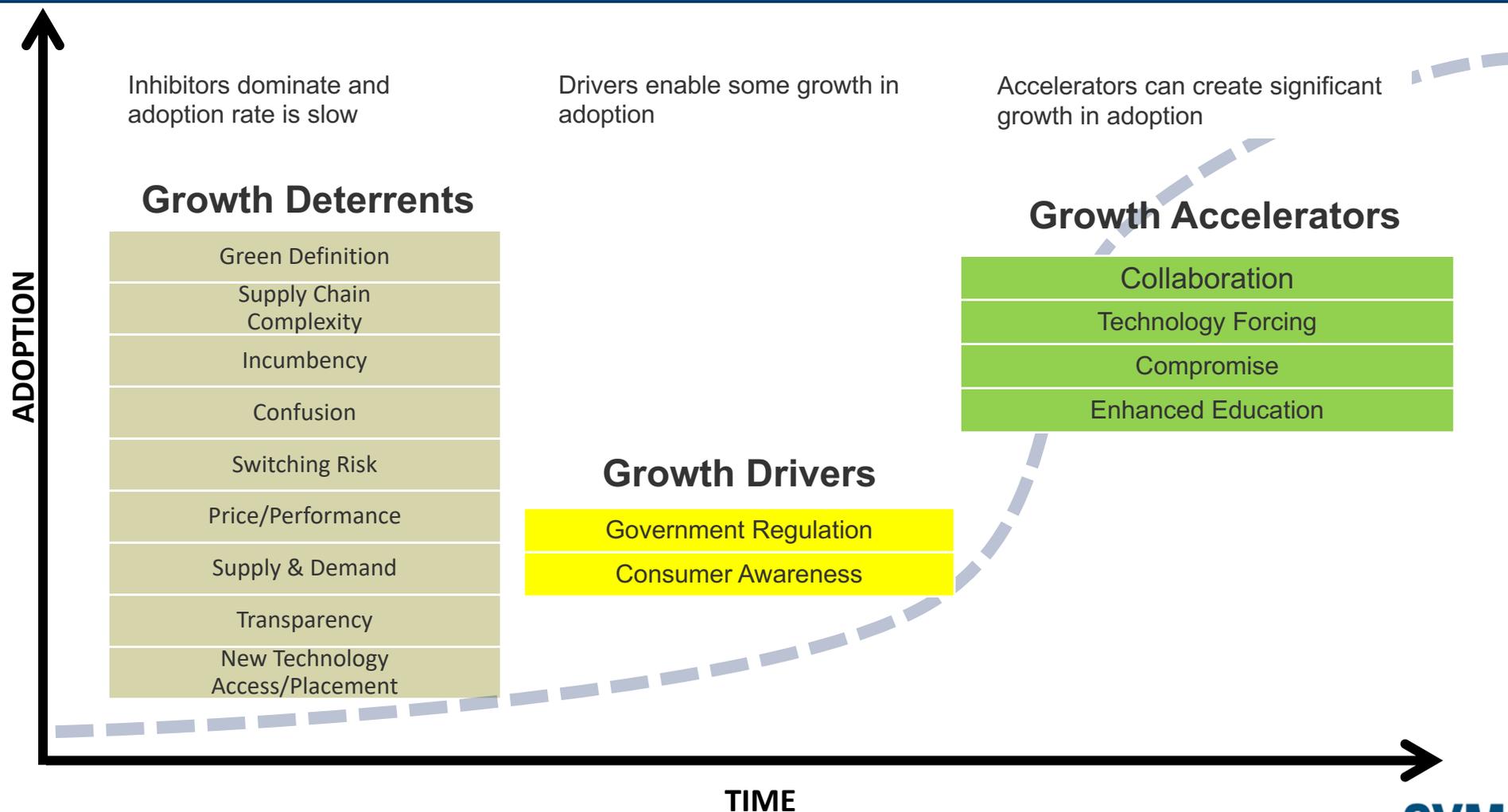
Green chemistry is the design of chemical products and processes that reduce or eliminate the use and generation of hazardous substances.

Follows 12 Principles of molecular design



Paul Anastas and John Warner, *Green Chemistry: Theory and Practice* (1998)

Great idea but there are lots of challenges....



<https://greenchemistryandcommerce.org/resources/gc3-publications>

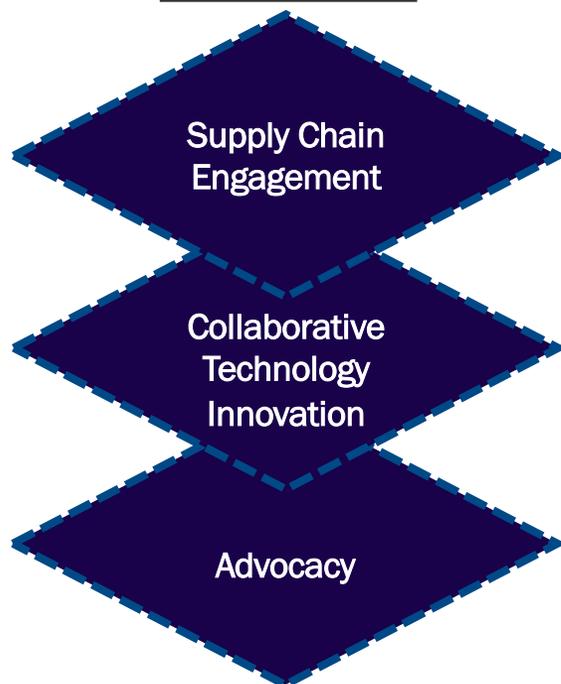
GC3: Bridging the Supply Chain to Accelerate Green Chemistry Innovation



* Established companies & startups

Accelerating the Commercialization of Green Chemistry: Major GC3 Platforms and Projects

Platforms



Projects



Connecting to emerging global themes driving action on chemicals



<https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment>
<https://www.unenvironment.org/explore-topics/chemicals-waste/what-we-do/policy-and-governance/global-chemicals-outlook>
<https://www.chemicalfootprint.org/>
<https://www.ellenmacarthurfoundation.org/>



What the future is likely to bring...

- Increased scrutiny of chemical problems - legacy
- Increased regulatory and market focus on avoiding chemicals of concern – including classes of chemicals
- Greater focus on end of life of materials (circularity) reuse/recovery and toxicity particularly in Europe – new regulatory policies
- Increasing regulatory scrutiny in Asia on chemicals
- When governments don't act, marketplace, including investors will...

Where alternatives assessment and informed substitution will be going

- Growth and greater standardization of tools and best practices
- Growth of community of practitioners
- Shift from informed substitution being a “compliance” activity to an innovation opportunity (and increased funding) – from problem space to solutions space
- Will lead to greater pre-competitive collaboration to solve problems and address cost, technical, transitional barriers

Lessons learned on driving safer chemistry

- A mix of regulatory and non-regulatory policy tools is needed to support the transition to safer chemicals including requirements to evaluate alternatives when restrictions are proposed
- Don't get caught up in paralysis by analysis, keep alternatives assessment flexible and iterative and adaptable to decision-contexts and different users
- Focus on both assessment and adoption
- Responsibility to create, use, procure materials that are high performing but ALSO do not create unintended consequences through their lifecycles.
- The transition will take decades, but defense community plays a critical role in supporting it

Alternatives Assessment Resources

- **OECD Substitution and Alternatives Assessment Toolbox** – Tools and model alternatives assessments [<http://www.oecdsatoolbox.org>]
- **OSHA Transitioning to Safer Chemicals** – Simple alternatives assessment process for small and medium sized companies with links to many tools [https://www.osha.gov/dsg/safer_chemicals]
- **Massachusetts Toxics Use Reduction Institute** – TURI reports, tools, library, assessments [www.turi.org]
- **Interstate Chemicals Clearinghouse** – Policy database, hazard assessment database [<http://www.theic2.org>]
- **Subsport** – Tools, assessments, frameworks and training materials [www.subsport.eu]
- **Clean Production Action** – GreenScreen, Chemical Footprint and alternatives assessment resources – [www.cleanproduction.org]
- **Chemical Commons** – Searchable chemical hazard data [<https://commons.healthymaterials.net/>]

Thank You!

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For more information, visit:

Green Chemistry & Commerce Council (GC3) | www.greenchemistryandcommerce.org

Association for the Advancement of Alternatives Assessment (A4) | www.saferalternatives.org

Toxics Use Reduction Institute (TURI) | www.turi.org

