

Green Urethanes develops technology allowing safe use of FRs to meet TB117

The UK-based company Green Urethanes Ltd. says it is currently working with natural oil polyols and a range of “off the shelf” flame retardants to create a win-win situation for the flexible polyurethane foam industry.

Using up to 400 % less flame retardant than is necessary for a conventional urethane foam to meet TB 117 requirements, **Green Urethanes** thinks it has found a chemical solution to lock the flame retardants into the fully cured foam. In addition, the chemistry only appears to work effectively with natural oil polyols. So not only do the foams have a higher bio-content, but they retain the chemicals necessary to provide home owners with an escape time should a furniture fire break out.

“TB 117 has been a globally understood and respected standard for the furniture industry and we should try to look for a solution that offers consumers protection from chemical exposure and fire,” explained **Jeff Rowlands**, Director, Green Urethanes Ltd. “We are extremely optimistic that our technology can help the chemical industry to resolve this problem.”

The company has fire tests planned for the beginning of March 2013 and hopes to present its initial findings at the Polyurethane Foam Association (PFA) Spring Meeting from 22 – 23 May 2013 in St. Petersburg, FL, USA.

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