

FOCUS! NEWSLETTER

Performance & Sustainability

A newsletter focusing on the performance and sustainability of NOVA Chemicals' products

August 2011

 [FORWARD](#)

 [SHARE THIS NEWSLETTER](#)

In This Issue

- [Health Experts: Polystyrene Still Safe in Foodservice Packaging](#)
- [Spotlight - New ACC Website](#)
- [Managing Greenhouse Gas Emissions Report Now Online](#)
- [Employees Join River Sweep Cleanup](#)

Health Experts: Polystyrene Still Safe in Foodservice Packaging

Editor's note: We recently heard from many readers who asked us to rerun this FOCUS! story because of its importance to consumers of foodservice products and to the industry. Dig Deeper at the end of the article has links/resources to find out more and to stay up to date on this issue.

Consumers bombarded by recent reports about possible cancer risks from everyday products need not worry about styrene in foodservice packaging, health experts advise.

**News Coverage
NTP Report**

A National Toxicology Program report included styrene among the substances that are "reasonably anticipated to be human carcinogens." Yet health experts advise the cancer risks from ordinary use of products manufactured using styrene is little to none, especially when weighed against known health risks like inactivity or obesity.

Despite the messages about the dangers posed by common things in our lives, most exposures "are not at a level that are going to cause cancer," Dr. Len Lichtenfeld, the American Cancer Society's deputy chief medical officer, told the Associated Press.

[Read More...](#)


ADVANCED FOAM RESIN

Contact ARCEL® resin

Phone: 1-724-770-5555

Email

arcel@novachem.com

Website

<http://www.arcelresins.com>


EPS resin

Phone: 1-877-877-0062

Email

performance@novachem.com

Website www.novachemicals.com/eps


upes resin

Contact UPES® resin

Phone: 1-724-770-6610

Email

upes@novachem.com

Website

www.upesresin.com

Spotlight - New ACC Website

Updated ACC site gives just the facts - The American Chemistry Council's new web site (<http://www.americanchemistry.com>) is a great resource for sustainability FACTS and the scientific studies that back up those FACTS.

The recently redesigned ACC site features recent studies on the progress of recycling rates of plastics, other environmental benefits and resource and environmental profile analyses. For example, a National Reach Study conducted by Moore Recycling Associates, Inc., Sonoma, Calif., documents the types of plastics being collected -- curbside or municipal drop-off -- in the United States and the percentage of the population that has access to recycling various types of plastic.

SPOTLIGHT

[Click here](#) for the study showing plastic recycling and [here](#) for other resources on plastics recycling in the [ACC Plastics Reports and Publications page](#).

Feedback Section

Like the new design? Want to read more about a specific topic? Want to share your packaging reduction or a sustainable practice story? Please write to: sustainablesolutions@novachem.com.

The web site also boosts the industry's advocacy for driving innovation, creating jobs and enhancing safety. It's also an outstanding resource for research and product information, and we suggest you bookmark this page. NOVA Chemicals is proud to be a member company of the ACC.

If you would like to learn more about recycling expandable polystyrene (EPS) specifically, we encourage you to visit the AFPR website. To find an EPS recycling program near you, [click here](#), or to learn how to create an EPS recycling program in your community, [click here](#).

Managing Greenhouse Gas Emissions Report Now Online

NOVA Chemicals' performance managing greenhouse gas emissions is reported in our annual GHG report, which also highlights our strategy in this important area and some of the specific projects underway to help achieve success. [Read report here](#).

The Managing Greenhouse Gas Emissions 2011 report provides GHG performance data from its chemical manufacturing, research and technical facilities worldwide. We also report GHG emissions from our joint-venture Joffre, Alberta cogeneration facility. At the Joffre site, the use of cogeneration resulted in fewer carbon dioxide equivalent (CO₂E)



emissions (about 776 kilotonnes [kt] in 2010) than if the same amount of electrical and steam energy had been produced using conventional boilers and typical electricity generation sources.

For more than a decade, NOVA Chemicals has focused on cogeneration in its GHG management strategy. The company continues to realize significant efficiencies by using cogeneration to generate steam for its manufacturing processes as well as electrical energy.

In addition, [a clean energy landfill gas program is now in place at its Painesville, Ohio location](#), which

manufactures 85 million pounds of expandable polystyrene (EPS) resins annually for use in the construction and packaging industries. In Painesville, piping in methane gas has already exceeded expectations for power generation and conservation by replacing natural gas at a level that would heat 160 homes year-round. Another benefit is improved air quality by reducing emissions associated with methane flaring at the landfill about two miles away from the EPS plant.

In a smaller but significant initiative to reduce carbon emissions, [alternate work schedules](#) are offered to many employees in Beaver Valley, Pa. The alternate work schedules lower emissions by reducing the number of days a person needs to drive to work without changing the total hours worked. This facility manufactures a variety of polystyrene and EPS resins, as well as ARCEL[®] advanced foam resins and UPES[®] resins, which are produced using QINNEX[®] Technology.

Employees Join River Sweep Cleanup

Volunteers from NOVA Chemicals put their zeal for a cleaner environment to work during the recent River Sweep cleanup on the Ohio River.



Twenty employees including members of our UPES, ARCEL and EPS teams from the Beaver Valley facility helped out at Montgomery Lock & Dam in Beaver County, Pa., filling 42 trash bags and recovering oil drums, tires, sheet metal, boat seats, a winter coat -- you name it!

That kind of effort personifies NOVA Chemicals' commitment to responsible action for sustainability and environmental stewardship, according to volunteer and UPES Business Director Shelly Martel. "The rivers are important to all of us; it's where we live, work and recreate, and we want to continue supporting this cleanup," she said. Since 1989, thousands of volunteers in six states have participated picking up discarded trash along the Ohio River and its tributaries.

[Read more about River Sweep in the *Pittsburgh Tribune-Review*](#)
