



PREVENTION *quarterly*



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What is The PBT Profiler?

The PBT Profiler (available at www.pbtprofiler.net) is a no-cost, online environmental persistence (P), bioconcentration potential (B), and aquatic toxicity (T) (PBT) screening methodology. The PBT Profiler is a subset of methods included in the P2 Framework, which is an approach to risk screening that incorporates pollution prevention principles in the design and development of chemicals. The objective of the P2 Framework is to inform decision-making at early stages of development and promote the selection and application of safer chemicals and processes. This approach is implemented by means of a subset of estimation methods included in U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (U.S. EPA) Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics' P2 Framework. The P2 Framework Web site has information on the models and how to use them. The *P2 Framework Manual* is also downloadable from this Web site. For more information, visit www.epa.gov/oppt/p2framework/.



Who Developed the PBT Profiler?

The PBT Profiler was developed jointly by U.S. EPA, the American Chemistry Council, the Chlorine Chemistry Council, the Synthetic

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Organic Chemical Manufacturers Association and with the support and contributions of Environmental Defense.

How does the PBT Profiler work?

U.S. EPA has taken methods for estimating environmental persistence (P), bioconcentration potential (B), and aquatic toxicity (T) and integrated these into a PBT Profiler. The PBT Profiler will predict P, B, and (fish chronic) T characteristics from chemical structure. When the user accesses the PBT Profiler on the Internet, the program prompts the user to enter the Chemical Abstracts Service (CAS) Registry Numbers (RNs) of chemicals under consideration. The PBT Profiler is linked to a database containing the CAS RNs and the associated chemical structures for more than 100,000 discrete chemical substances. If the CAS RN is in the database, the PBT Profiler will translate the CAS RN into a chemical structure, predict the PBT characteristics and provide a PBT Profile in an easy to understand format. A drawing program is available so that the

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user can draw and enter the structure if the CAS RN is not in the database.

In addition, the PBT Profiler compares the results of a profile with the PBT criteria established for Premanufacture Notices (PMNs) submitted under section 5 of The Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA), and the final rule for reporting chemicals under the Toxic Chemical Release Inventory (TRI), under section 313 of the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA).

Status of the PBT Profiler

U.S. EPA conducted a beta test of the PBT Profiler with industry and other stakeholders to further evaluate the technical accuracy of the PBT Profiler and to solicit comments on the format, content and interpretation of model results. Based on the results of the beta test, the Agency made revisions to the PBT Profiler. Several beta testers are currently helping develop case studies screening chemicals using the PBT Profiler. After the beta test was completed, U.S. EPA initiated a formal scientific peer review of the revised, updated PBT Profiler. The Peer Review has concluded and the PBT Profiler has been revised to reflect comments received. U.S. EPA does not rely solely on results of screening level methods, such as the PBT Profiler, to regulate chemicals. Users should remember that this is a screening level method that provides estimates of PBT characteristics and is useful for establishing priorities for chemical evaluation when chemical-specific data are lacking. This, and any screening level method, should be used with caution. If the PBT Profiler identifies an issue of potential concern, additional data should be gathered and/or additional analyses conducted to come to an informed decision about the chemicals under review.

There are limitations associated with the PBT Profiler. These limitations are highlighted and explained for the user within the model itself.

Cuyahoga County's Youth Intervention Center - *Cuyahoga County, through its Youth Intervention Center, is making commitments to its troubled youth, the environment and a local community.*

Cuyahoga County's Youth Intervention Center is a \$60 million new construction of the world's first "green" youth intervention center. The Cuyahoga County Commissioners demonstrated forward thinking in their decisions for the center. These included an assessment center to help figure out mental and physical health conditions and the appropriate level of service and security necessary within the center. Along with this assessment, the Cuyahoga County Commissioners stated in the Request For Proposals a strong commitment to green building, ensuring that the facility has high indoor air quality and that sleeping rooms, recreation rooms and dining facilities have abundant natural light.

Heery International, Inc. is providing program management services for the facility, which is scheduled to open in early 2005. The proposed 300-bed campus features an assessment center, detention and shelter care housing, as well as magistrate, food service, juvenile justice management information system center and school spaces.

After reviewing about 70 potential sites and finally settling on rebuilding on the existing site (about an acre), the team was nearing design development initiation when a 13-acre urban brownfield site



Graphic taken from Heery International's Project Portfolio at www.heery.com

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became available. This new acquisition, a former brewery, presented an incredible opportunity to develop on a brownfield site. In addition to cleaning up the site to meet Ohio EPA's Voluntary Action Program residential standards, the county is incorporating "green" and sustainable design principles. The brownfield cleanup is managed under the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency's Voluntary Action Program and will be participating in Ohio's new Memorandum of Agreement Track, which provides liability release from both Ohio EPA and U.S. EPA. The project has also received funds under Ohio's new Clean Ohio Revitalization Fund program for brownfield redevelopment.

Typical of corrections projects, there was a great deal of stakeholder involvement. In the case of the Youth Intervention Center, community leaders were chosen to serve on the "design vision selection team" to recommend the architect and facility design, which will aesthetically improve the community.

In order to achieve community improvement and innovation, 240 firms nationwide were invited to participate in a design competition. Six firms qualified and submitted proposals. The selection committee has given its overwhelming recommendation to an association made up of a local firm, The Ralph Tyler Company, and Jacobs Facilities Inc.

In addition to project-specific tasks, Heery hosted a team-building session with county and justice officials, initiated project management training courses for Cuyahoga County Central Service and began investigating a countywide facilities management philosophy.

For more information on Heery International projects, visit their Web site at www.heery.com.

For more information on the Clean Ohio Revitalization Fund program, visit www.odod.state.oh.us/ud/CleanOhioFund.htm.

For more information on Ohio EPA's Voluntary Action Program, visit www.epa.state.oh.us/derr/volunt.html.

Regional Workshop Series to Introduce "An Organizational Guide to Pollution Prevention"

Workshop Goals

This three-day workshop will focus on the new U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) publication, *An Organizational Guide to Pollution Prevention* (EPA/625/R-01/003). This new guide presents three well-publicized approaches to environmental planning for organizations desiring to start, revitalize or promote pollution prevention efforts. It also offers a fourth approach, which allows an organization to prepare a customized plan that is a combination of the existing three models. Tools are provided to assist organizations in developing a program or plan that is specific to their needs using each of these approaches or any combination of approaches.



An Organizational Guide to Pollution Prevention is organized into three basic sections: Basic P2 Concepts and Tools, P2 Program Implementation Approaches and a companion CD with supporting P2 information.

This workshop provides information to help organizations get P2 programs started or to reevaluate existing P2 programs. The guide presents an alternative method for working on P2 projects and plans, and four approaches to implementing P2 and environmental planning within an organization. The intention is to spark some ideas and provide tools that can be used to successfully complete an organization's P2 mission. During the workshop, attendees will be divided into teams that will perform exercises to better understand the process.

Instructors

Two highly energetic and widely-known trainers, Bob Pojasek, president of Pojasek and Associates, and Cam Metcalf, executive director of the Kentucky Regional Workshop Series continued on page 4

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Pollution Prevention Center, will provide three days of training and hands-on practical applications for information, fun and profit. Facilitated group activities will introduce, encourage and promote the use of systems approach tools to assess and shape environmental management planning that meets the unique needs of any organization.

Dates and Locations

Further information regarding dates and training locations will be posted on U.S. EPA's Office of Research and Development Web site in early 2003. www.epa.gov/ttbnrmrl/p2workshop.htm.

To order a copy of *An Organizational Guide to Pollution Prevention*, visit the Office of Research and Development, National Risk Management Research Laboratory, Technology Transfer Branch Web site at www.epa.gov/ttbnrmrl/.

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