



Annual Report Summary

Toxics in Packaging Clearinghouse July 1, 2013 – June 30, 2014

This report highlights the accomplishments of the Toxics in Packaging Clearinghouse (TPCH) from July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014 (FY14).

TPCH FY14 HIGHLIGHTS

- ◆ Released a research report, [Glass Matrix Test Methods Evaluation for Toxics in Packaging](#), in February 2014. This research, funded by the California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC), evaluated test methods for determining the total concentration of lead and cadmium in glass packaging components, and resulted in recommendations for testing glass containers for compliance with state toxics in packaging laws. The report was accompanied by a [press release](#).
- ◆ Distributed a complementary [guidance document](#) on testing glass to assist regulated entities and laboratories in selecting appropriate test methods to demonstrate compliance with state toxics in packaging statutes.
- ◆ Released x-ray fluorescent (XRF) screening results for glass wine bottles, indicating that about 19 percent of bottles tested exceeded allowable levels of lead in packaging. All bottles analyzed by TPCH that exceeded regulatory thresholds were green wine bottles originating from South America and Europe. Bottles used to package domestic wine, specifically wine originating from California, Oregon and Washington, were in compliance with U.S. state laws. A [Notice on Glass Packaging Screening Results](#) was posted on the TPCH website.
- ◆ In response to the above screening results, initiated an outreach and education program targeting wine and beer importers and distributors.
- ◆ Began planning the 5th TPCH packaging screening project using XRF technology. This project will screen packaging from targeted sectors, including additional wine bottles, to determine compliance with state toxics in packaging laws. The results will be used for education and coordinated state enforcement, if applicable, and to determine whether screening projects to date have resulted in source reduction of the restricted heavy metals in packaging. Results are expected in the spring 2015.
- ◆ 15,761 visitors accessed the TPCH website in FY14, or 1,313 visitors per month.
- ◆ Convened 2-day annual membership meeting in October in Providence, Rhode Island at the RI Department of Environmental Management.