



## **VECAP RECOGNISED BY INDUSTRY AS AN OUTSTANDING TOOL IN PRODUCT STEWARDSHIP**

**INCREASED LEVEL OF PARTICIPATION IN VOLUNTARY PROGRAMME CONFIRMS FLAME RETARDANT  
INDUSTRY COMMITMENT TO IMPLEMENT BEST PRACTICES**

**BRUSSELS, 6 April 2011-** The results of the Voluntary Emissions Control Action Programme (VECAP) Annual Progress Report, released today, revealed continued growth in participation to the programme, with 95% coverage of the sales volume. The number of VECAP-certified sites grew from three to five compared to last year, external certification being the gold standard in the level of commitment to VECAP.

The results confirmed a continuing downward trend in emissions from brominated flame retardant (BFR) production and user plants in Europe. Successful implementation of best practices are reported to have led to a significant decrease in potential emissions from packaging waste of Decabromodiphenyl ether (Deca-BDE) and Hexabromocyclododecane (HBCD) to land and water since the programme was implemented.

Potential emission levels to air have remained relatively stable for all substances. In addition, for the 2010 estimations, new insights in user practices have led to an adjustment in the methodology for estimating air emissions more accurately.

Hubert Mandery, Director General of Cefic (European Chemical Industry Council), said "Continuous improvement is key to VECAP's philosophy. The latest progress report provides a first look at some encouraging trends and sheds light on new areas to be tackled".

**The latest VECAP Progress Report and more details on the programme can be found at:**

[www.vecap.info](http://www.vecap.info)

*Background: The Voluntary Emissions Control Action Programme (VECAP) aims to reduce brominated flame retardants emissions through the promotion of environmental and process best practices throughout the value chain, from producers to downstream users.*

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