

one place
where acid
doesn't reign



Science Supporting PVC in the Environment

The European PVC industry operates to the strictest legal requirements and standards of safety. In fact, the industry has voluntarily gone

beyond these requirements in the further interests of employees, customers, the community and the environment. So, in the face of continued allegations about the safety of the manufacture of PVC, we'd like to put some important facts

straight. This Overview Note aims to give the facts, the science and the reasoning behind why we believe PVC is entirely safe to manufacture.

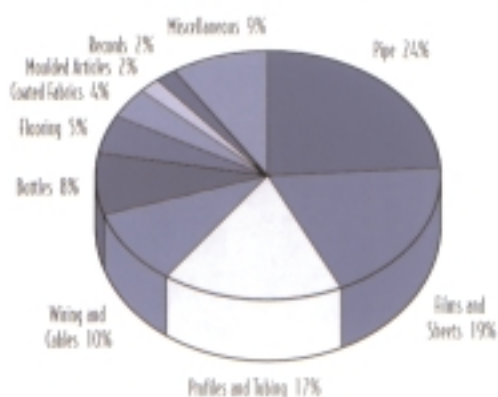
Process Controls

The manufacture of virtually every material is closely regulated to minimise its impact on human health and the environment. Members of the European Council of Vinyl Manufacturers (ECVM) accept that all production, manufacturing and disposal processes of modern industrialised society have an impact on the environment, including PVC.

In line with technology advances, production processes for PVC have been continually improved and their environmental impact steadily reduced. The European PVC industry recognises the need for ongoing environmental improvement. To this end, all members of ECVM came together in 1995 to sign an Industry Charter, which is a voluntary agreement across the European PVC industry. It commits each company to stringent minimum standards of care for PVC production, including emission limits for aqueous effluents. The Charter in many instances establishes higher standards than those required by relevant national legislation.

Like many manufacturing processes, the production of PVC involves the use of raw materials that can be hazardous if improperly handled. In day to day operations, however, the PVC industry has a good record of safe operation.

Today's production processes reduce environmental emissions and minimise potential worker exposure to chemicals such as vinyl chloride monomer (VCM).



World usage of PVC

