



**German Chemical Society  
Gesellschaft Deutscher Chemiker**

GDCh-Advisory Committee  
on Existing Chemicals of  
Environmental Relevance (BUA)

**BUA Reports 164-166**

**p-Hydroxybenzoic acid**

BUA Report 164 (December 1993)

**Hexabromocyclododecane**

BUA Report 165 (August 1995)

**Propylene glycol**

BUA Report 166 (August 1995)



S. Hirzel

Wissenschaftliche Verlagsgesellschaft 1998

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edited by the GDCh-Advisory  
Committee on Existing Chemicals  
of Environmental Relevance

Beratergremium für  
Umweltrelevante Altstoffe (BUA)



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## Foreword

The German Chemicals Act (Chemikaliengesetz — ChemG) of 1980 stipulates that certain existing chemicals must be reported to the competent authority, if they exhibit properties which indicate that they may be hazardous, either alone or in combination with other substances.

In the summer of 1982, an Advisory Committee on Existing Chemicals of Environmental Relevance (BUA) was set up by the German Chemical Society (Gesellschaft Deutscher Chemiker - GDCh). It brings together representatives from the scientific community, the chemical industry and the governmental authorities. This Advisory Committee is responsible for elaborating appropriate solutions for substances of relevance for health and the environment on the basis of voluntary measures. It selects and examines existing chemicals from the aforementioned angles. The testing and evaluation are based on scientific criteria alone.

It was, therefore, necessary to develop priority setting procedures. In a first phase reports were only prepared for priority chemicals. Within the framework of a first priority setting procedure, chemicals were compiled from several priority lists and 135 chemicals were selected for detailed reports.

In a second priority setting procedure the survey of the German Chemical Industry Association (VCI) on all substances with a production volume of more than 10 tons per year was used as a starting list. Since this survey covered 4,600 chemicals, BUA decided to process the corresponding list in several stages. The first stage included approx. 1,050 substances with a production volume of more than 1,000 tons per year. This priority setting procedure, which utilized data sets provided by the industry and must appraise exposure data and the most important biological effect data, is the subject of a separate publication entitled "Existing Chemicals of Environmental Relevance III".

Detailed reports are drawn up on chemicals suspected of having a hazard potential and abridged reports on those presenting only a minor hazard potential, according to the current state of knowledge.

The detailed BUA reports take in both the published literature and data from industry. If data for the evaluation of the chemicals are not available, additional studies are recommended and the results are published as update to the reports. The reports serve as a basis for the instigation of administrative measures, when there are indications of risks to health or the environment.

Tübingen, May 1993

Ernst Bayer  
Chairman of the Advisory Committee  
on Existing Chemicals  
of Environmental Relevance

# **p-Hydroxybenzoic acid**

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# **Hexabromocyclododecane**

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# **Propylene glycol**

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