



PolyChloroBiphenyls

*Management of a legacy pollutant
in the built environment*

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REPUBLIQUE
ET CANTON
DE GENEVE

POST TENEBRAS LUX

Département du territoire
Service de l'air, du bruit et des rayonnements non ionisants

05.10.2023 - Page 1



1. Introduction
2. Sources and matrices
3. Regulations and management
4. Inspection and diagnostics
5. Sampling and Analyses
6. Remediations in the built environment



Geneva State - SABRA - Toxicology

Controlling health and environmental risks from toxic substances in the built environment

Mission

Danger and
risk assesment



Information

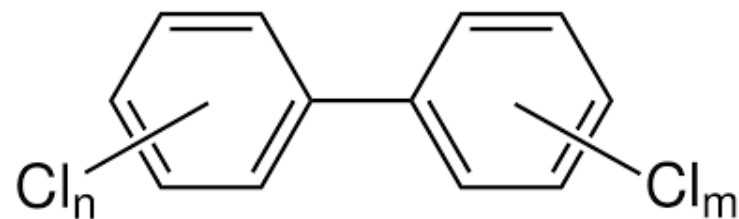


Authority



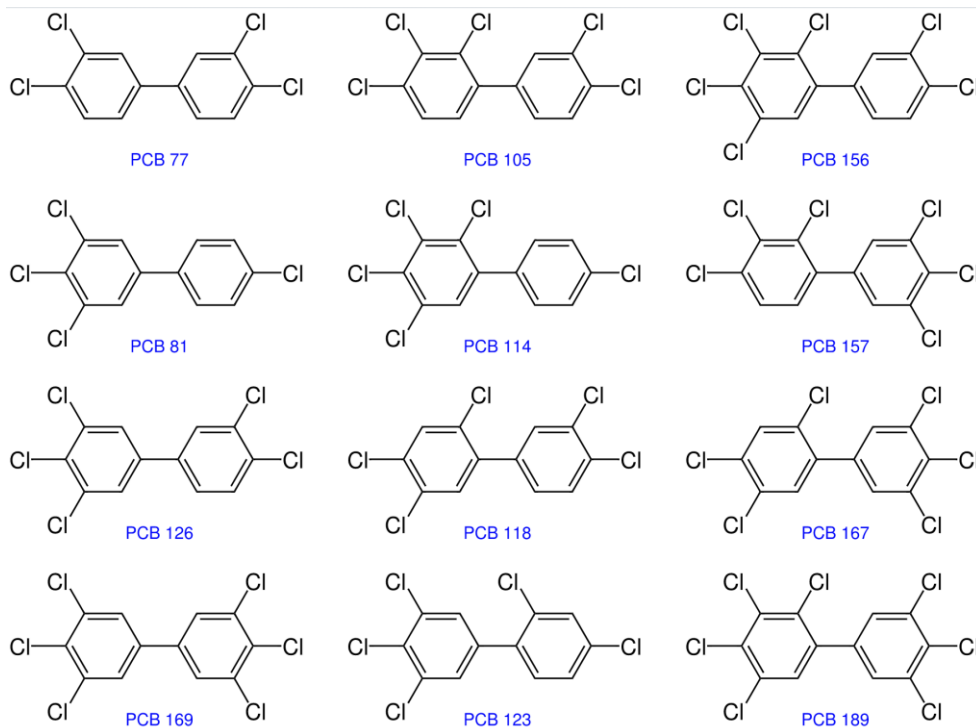
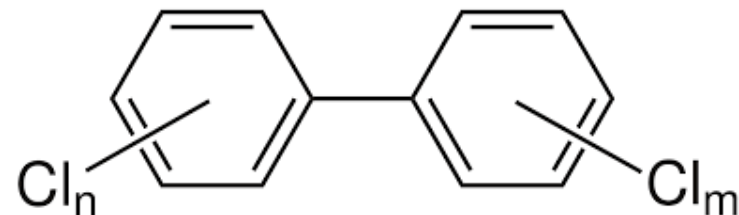
PCB physical characteristics

- Viscous liquids (oils) with high thermal stability (degradation from 300-400° C)
- Formation of PCDD (dioxins) and PCDF (furans) upon heating!
- High chemical stability (acids and alkalis)
- Very low volatility (volatility decreasing with higher chlorine content)
- Good heat conduction
- Excellent breakdown voltage (> 35 kV/mm)
- Highly lipophilic



PCB structures

Not a compound but a mixture

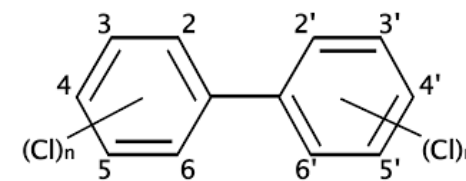


Chlorine from 1 to 10

209 possible
configurations (or congeners)



PCB nomenclature

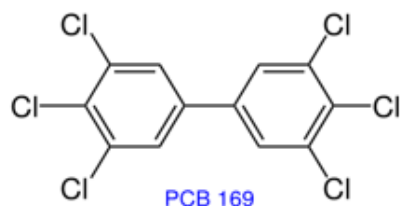
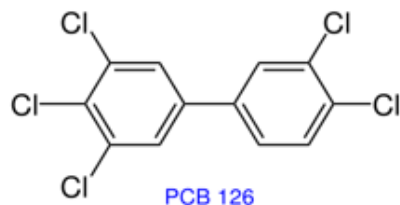


| Chlorine position on each ring | None | 2 | 3 | 4 | 2,3 | 2,4 | 2,5 | 2,6 | 3,4 | 3,5 | 2,3,4 | 2,3,5 | 2,3,6 | 2,4,5 | 2,4,6 | 3,4,5 | 2,3,4,5 | 2,3,4,6 | 2,3,5,6 | 2,3,4,5,6 | |
|--------------------------------|------|---|----|----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-------|-------|-------|-------|------------------|-------|---------|---------|---------|-----------|-----|
| None | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 5 | 7 | 9 | 10 | 12 | 14 | 21 | 23 | 24 | 29 | 30 | 38 | 61 | 62 | 65 | 116 | |
| 2' | | 4 | 6 | 8 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 33 | 34 | 41 | 43 | 45 | 48 | 50 | 76 | 86 | 88 | 93 | 142 | |
| 3' | | | 11 | 13 | 20 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 35 | 36 | 55 | 57 | 59 | 67 | 69 | 78 | 106 | 108 | 112 | 160 | |
| 4' | | | | 15 | 22 | 28 | 31 | 32 | 37 | 39 | 60 | 63 | 64 | 74 | 75 | 81 | 114 | 115 | 117 | 166 | |
| 2',3' | | | | | 40 | 42 | 44 | 46 | 56 | 58 | 82 | 83 | 84 | 97 | 98 | 122 | 129 | 131 | 134 | 173 | |
| 2',4' | | | | | | 47 | 49 | 51 | 66 | 68 | 85 | 90 | 91 | 99 | 100 ^c | 123 | 137 | 139 | 147 | 181 | |
| 2',5' | | | | | | | 52 | 53 | 70 | 72 | 87 | 92 | 95 | 101 | 103 | 124 | 141 | 144 | 151 | 185 | |
| 2',6' | | | | | | | | 54 | 71 | 73 | 89 | 94 | 96 | 102 | 104 | 125 | 143 | 145 | 152 | 186 | |
| 3',4' | | | | | | | | | | 77 | 79 | 105 | 109 | 110 | 118 | 119 | 126 | 156 | 158 | 190 | |
| 3',5' | | | | | | | | | | | 80 | 107 | 111 | 113 | 120 | 121 | 127 | 159 | 161 | 165 | 192 |
| 2',3',4' | | | | | | | | | | | | 128 | 130 | 132 | 138 | 140 | 157 | 170 | 171 | 177 | 195 |
| 2',3',5' | | | | | | | | | | | | | 133 | 135 | 146 | 148 | 162 | 172 | 175 | 178 | 198 |
| 2',3',6' | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 136 | 149 | 150 | 164 | 174 | 176 | 179 | 200 |
| 2',4',5' | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 153 | 154 | 167 | 180 | 183 | 187 | 203 |
| 2',4',6' | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 155 | 168 | 182 | 184 | 188 | 204 |
| 3',4',5' | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 169 | 189 | 191 | 193 | 205 |
| 2',3',4',5' | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 194 | 196 | 199 | 206 |
| 2',3',4',6' | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 197 | 201 | 207 |
| 2',3',5',6' | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 202 | 208 |
| 2',3',4',5',6' | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 209 |

From B. Lindell, *Polychlorinated biphenyls*, 2004

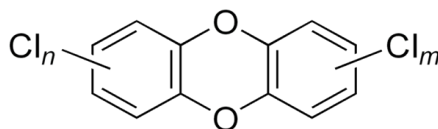
In grey: 12 dioxin-like congeners (ability to adopt a planar configuration)

PCB dioxin-like congeners

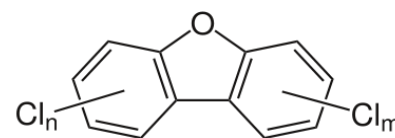


| PCBs | TEF | TEQ | PCBs | TEF | TEQ |
|---------|---------|--------|---------|---------|--------|
| PCB-77 | 0.0001 | 0.0072 | PCB-118 | 0.00003 | 0.0016 |
| PCB-81 | 0.0003 | 0.0184 | PCB-123 | 0.00003 | 0.0033 |
| PCB-126 | 0.1 | 9.6630 | PCB-156 | 0.00003 | 0.0020 |
| PCB-169 | 0.03 | 1.4784 | PCB-157 | 0.00003 | 0.0014 |
| PCB-105 | 0.00003 | 0.0017 | PCB-167 | 0.00003 | 0.0008 |
| PCB-114 | 0.00003 | 0.0019 | PCB-189 | 0.00003 | 0.0017 |

The most toxic congeners in comparison to dioxin



Polychlorodibenzodioxines
(PCDD)
75 congénères



Polychlorodibenzofuranes
(PCDF)
135 congénères

PCB biological effects



- **Cancer effects:** PCBs are probable human carcinogens (IARC, EPA)

Non-cancer effects:

- **Immune effects:** Decreased resistance to viruses and other infections (evidence in animals and humans)
- **Reproductive effects:** Reproductive effects may be important in humans following exposures to PCBs (evidence in humans)
- **Neurological effects:** Significant deficits in neurological development (evidence in animals)
- **Endocrine disrupting effects:** PCB exposures have been associated with changes in thyroid hormone levels in infants in studies

PCB

Parts of the dirty dozen (the 12 initial POPs)



- **Persistence:** dependant from the degree of chlorination, half-lives can vary from 10 days to one-and-a-half years
- **Bioaccumulative:** especially the highly chlorinated congeners, tend to accumulate in lipid-rich tissues due to their lipophilic nature
- **Toxic:** Cancer and non cancer effects

Names of commercial mixtures

Arochlors 1242, 1248, 1254, 1260

12 C

48% of Cl
in weight

| Pays | Nom commercial | Fabricant |
|---------------------------------|----------------|-----------------------|
| USA | Asbetol | American Corporation |
| | Chlorextol | Allis Chlammers |
| | Diaclor | Sangamo Electric |
| | Dykanol | Cornell Dubilier |
| | Elemex | Mac Graw Edison |
| | Hyvol | Aerovox |
| | Inerteen | Westinghouse Electric |
| | No-Flamol | Wagner Electric |
| | Pyranol | General Electric |
| | Saf-T-Kuhl | Kuhlman Electric |
| | Therminol | Monsanto |
| | Aroclor | Monsanto |
| Royaume-Uni | Aroclor | Monsanto |
| République Fédérale d'Allemagne | Clophen | Farbenfabriken Bayer |
| France | Phenoclor | Rhone-Poulenc |
| | Pyralène | Prodelec |
| | Electrophenyle | Ugine-Kuhlman |
| Ex-Union Soviétique | Soval | Soval |
| Tchécoslovaquie | Delor | Chemko |
| Japon | Santotherm | Mitsubishi-Monsanto |
| | Kanechlor | Kanegafuchi Chem. Co |
| Italie | Fenclor | Caffaro |
| | D.K. | |



PCB sources

PCBs were used in hundreds of industrial and commercial applications including:

- ✓ Electrical, heat transfer and hydraulic equipment
- ✓ Plasticizers in paints, plastics and rubber products
- ✓ Pigments, dyes and carbonless copy paper



PCB applications

| PCB Use | Pounds (millions) | Percentage of Total |
|-------------------------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| Capacitors | 630 | 50.3% |
| Transformers | 335 | 26.7% |
| Plasticizer uses | 115 | 9.2% |
| Hydraulics and lubricants | 80 | 6.4% |
| Carbonless copy paper | 45 | 3.6% |
| Heat transfer fluids | 20 | 1.6% |
| Petroleum additives | 1 | 0.1% |
| Miscellaneous industrial uses | 27 | 2.2% |
| TOTALS | 1,253 | 100.0% |

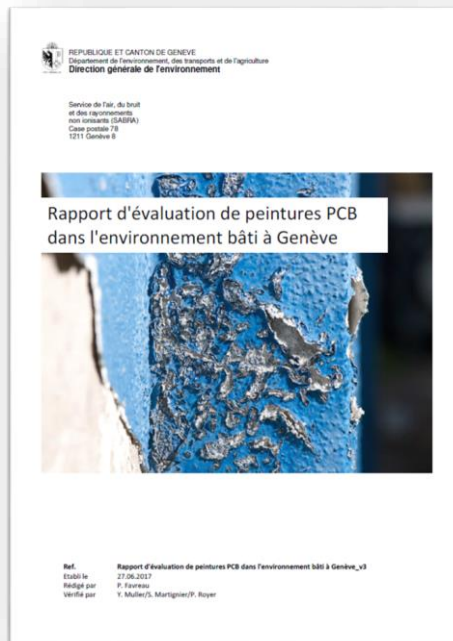
Annotations: Blue arrows point from the 'Plasticizer uses' and 'Miscellaneous industrial uses' rows to the text 'caulks' and 'paints' respectively.

EPA, 1/30/97



Local situation as an example:

- 70% of precast concrete buildings in Geneva contain PCB joints (1955 to 1975)
- 20% of technical paint in buildings contain PCB (>100 ppm)
- 20% of paint bridges contain PCB (>100 ppm)



PCB regulation

1996: EU- Directive on the disposal of PCBs/PCTs enters into force

2001: Stockholm convention signed 2001, into force in 2004 for the 12 initial POPs (including PCBs)

2025: PCBs within di-electric equipment in concentrations above 0.005% (50 ppm) and in volumes greater than 50 ml to be identified and removed from use.



EU countries must ensure that they

- make inventories of big equipment containing PCBs or PCTs
- adopt plans for the disposal of this equipment, and safely dispose of it (deadline for disposal was the end of 2010)
- prepare outlines for collecting and disposing of non-inventoried equipment containing PCBs and PCTs (such as most household appliances manufactured prior to the ban on these chemicals)

PCB regulation

European requirements have been incorporated into Swiss law by the Ordinance on Chemical Products (Annex 1.1 and 2.14)

814.81

[🔗](#) | [Développer tout](#) | [Vue par article](#) | [Fermer tout](#) | 

English is not an official language of the Swiss Confederation. This translation is provided for information purposes only and has no legal force.

Ordinance on the Reduction of Risks relating to the Use of Certain Particularly Dangerous Substances, Preparations and Articles

(Chemical Risk Reduction Ordinance, ORRChem)

of 18 May 2005 (Status as of 1 June 2023)



PCB regulation - Switzerland

Open systems

(elastic sealants, anti-corrosion coatings, paints and varnishes)

PCB ban in 1972



Closed systems

(transformers and capacitors)

PCB ban in 1986



A transitional period until 1998 has been granted for the decommissioning and disposal of large capacitors (total weight > 1 kg) and transformers

A limit of 50 ppm is applied for transformers, capacitors and caulks and 100 ppm for paints

PCB management

- Efforts must be focused on sources BEFORE any environmental release
- Efforts to locate, detect and manage properly transformers, capacitors, caulks, paints, etc.

Environnemental contamination

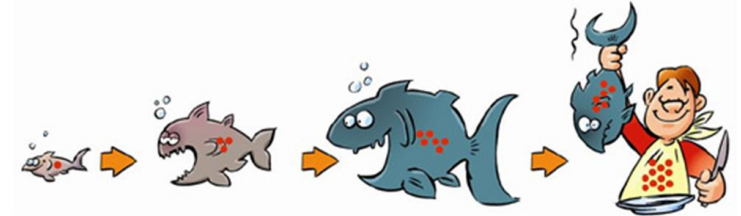
A contaminated fish = 40 μg of **PCB**

1 meter of caulk with PCB = 1 g of **PCB**

Stock in caulks in Switzerland = 100 tons of **PCB**

Leading to PCB exposition

- Indirect exposition through food
- Direct exposition in the built environment



80 % of our time in the built environment

INHALATION

AIR, DUST



CUTANEOUS

AIR

MATERIALS



ABSORPTION

DUST



PCB value guidelines (swiss)

Dust For total PCB: 10 $\mu\text{g}/100\text{cm}^2$ (US EPA)

Air (aerosol and gaz phase)

| Durée de séjour moyenne dans le bâtiment concerné | Exemples | Valeur indicative pour les PCB (concentration maximale tolérable dans l'air des locaux, en tant que PCB totaux, moyenne annuelle) |
|---|--------------------------------------|---|
| 24 heures par jour | appartement, hôpital, home, etc. | 2 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ |
| 8 heures par jour | Ecole, jardin d'enfant, bureau, etc. | 6 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ |

After remediation: release measurement tPCB < 600 ng/m³

Average exposure limit (8h) for workers : 500 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$

PCB

Transformers

- A major PCB fraction
- Inventory facilitated by relatively easy identification of owners (electrical suppliers, industry)

In Switzerland, transformers and capacitors containing more than 1 kg of PCBs had to be taken out of service and disposed of by summer 1998.

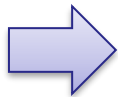
But for other applications ???



PCB

Small capacitors, caulks, paints

- Many diffuse applications, difficult to locate and manage
- Major risk is dissemination and exposition due to handling and management without knowledge



Renovation and **Demolition** work in building identified as a key point

PCB regulation

- Local regulations for hazardous substances in the **built environment** (including PCBs)

Règlement sur les substances dangereuses dans l'environnement bâti (RSDEB)

Tableau historique

du 10 septembre 2008

(Entrée en vigueur : 18 septembre 2008)

K 1 70.14

LaLPE

Art. 15B⁽¹³⁾ Substances dangereuses dans l'environnement bâti

¹ Le Conseil d'Etat définit les prestations cantonales en matière de substances dangereuses dans l'environnement bâti, dont l'adoption d'un plan de mesures et l'organisation de campagnes d'information et de sensibilisation des corps de métier concernés et de la population.

² Il veille à la prise des mesures nécessaires à l'assainissement des bâtiments contenant de l'amiante et d'autres substances dangereuses.

³ En cas de travaux soumis à autorisation de construire au sens de la loi sur les constructions et les installations diverses, du 14 avril 1988, ou de la loi sur les démolitions, transformations et rénovations de maisons d'habitation (mesures de soutien en faveur des locataires et de l'emploi), du 25 janvier 1996, le requérant doit joindre à la demande d'autorisation, pour les parties du bâtiment concernées par les travaux, une attestation de présence ou d'absence de substances dangereuses. Les substances concernées sont :

- l'amiante, pour les demandes portant sur des bâtiments construits avant 1991;
- les biphényles polychlorés (**PCB**), pour les demandes portant sur des bâtiments construits entre 1955 et 1975.

⁴ Des contrôles ponctuels sont effectués par le département.

PCB regulation

BEFORE any renovation work or demolition

- Obligation to conduct a PCB assessment for the owners
- Allow authorities to conduct controls in construction and renovation work

If PCBs are present:

- Remediation must be performed (removal of materials containing PCBs)
- After remediation, release measures have to be done to ensure no contamination

Guidelines and Recommendations



Les Polluants du bâti

<https://polludoc.ch/fr>

REPUBLIQUE ET CANTON DE GENEVE
Département du territoire
Service de l'air, du bruit et des rayonnements non ionisants

version 2
août 2018

DIRECTIVE – DIAGNOSTIC PCB

I. INTRODUCTION

Les polychlorobiphényles (PCB) constituent une famille de composés chlorés de synthèse reconnus comme polluants majeurs à l'échelle internationale. Ils ont été totalement interdits en Suisse depuis 1986. De nombreux PCB sont présents dans les constructions et déposés avec les précautions nécessaires pour les personnes et une contamination de l'environnement. C'est pourquoi, un diagnostic des constructions qui ont été réalisées avant 1986 peut être réalisé afin de déterminer les filières de traitement de ces investigations incombant à l'Etat. Ce diagnostic est réalisé par un diagnostic de diagnostic PCB et qui se sont fait en vertu de l'ordonnance de diagnostic PCB.

La SABRA publie sur internet le diagnostic PCB et qui se sont fait en vertu de l'ordonnance de diagnostic PCB et qui se sont fait en vertu de l'ordonnance de diagnostic PCB.

II. BUT DE LA DIRECTIVE

La présente directive est destinée à définir les exigences minimales pour les propriétaires, les occupants et les entreprises de construction afin de garantir la sécurité de la population et de l'environnement. Elle définit les exigences minimales pour les propriétaires, les occupants et les entreprises de construction afin de garantir la sécurité de la population et de l'environnement. Seul le diagnostic avant travaux d'une construction concernée par la présente directive peut être réalisé. Si les parties concernées par la présente directive ne peuvent pas l'attester. Dans le cas contraire, elles doivent l'attester.

REPUBLIQUE ET CANTON DE GENEVE
Département du territoire
Office cantonal de l'environnement

Version 2
Janvier 2021

DIRECTIVE SABRA

ASSAINISSEMENT DES MATÉRIAUX CONTENANT DES PCB

I. INTRODUCTION

A Genève, le service de l'air, du bruit et des rayonnements non ionisants (ci-après SABRA) est l'autorité compétente en ce qui concerne la protection de la population et l'environnement vis-à-vis des substances dangereuses. Dans ce cadre, le service réalise des contrôles par pointage. Il publie sur Internet des fiches techniques de référence pour les principales méthodologies de retrait des matériaux contenant avec des PCB : www.ge.ch/le/liste-pcb.

Les entreprises peuvent mettre en œuvre d'autres méthodologies à condition qu'elles soient transmises au SABRA 10 jours avant le commencement des travaux.

Un élément contenant plus de 50 mg/kg PCB doit être considéré comme contaminé et toutes les interventions nécessitent des précautions particulières afin d'éviter :

- une exposition des personnes (ouvriers et voisinage) ;
- une dissémination de PCB dans l'environnement ;
- la transformation de PCB en dioxines.

L'élimination des déchets contenant des PCB est régit par l'ordonnance sur la limitation et l'élimination des déchets (OLED). Dans ce cadre, des analyses complémentaires peuvent être nécessaires pour déterminer la teneur en PCB dans les bétons qui ont été contaminés par contact et définir ainsi leur filière d'élimination.

Les déchets contenant des PCB doivent être conditionnés conformément aux règles de OMOd et IADR. Ils seront acheminés dans la filière d'élimination pour déchets spéciaux conforme à l'OLED. Pour plus d'information, le GESDEC publie un guide sur les déchets de chantiers : www.ge.ch/document/dechets-guide-dechets-chantier.

DIAGNOSTIC avant travaux → Non soumis à autorisation → RETRAIT des matériaux contaminés → TRAVAUX sur matériaux non contaminés

ATTESTATION substances dangereuses → TRAVAUX sur matériaux non contaminés

Directives concrètes en vigueur : www.ge.ch/le/liste-pcb

Directives concrètes en vigueur : www.ge.ch/le/liste-pcb



A key part is the **IDENTIFICATION OF RISK ELEMENTS** in the building by specialized inspectors:

The inspector determines the presence or absence of PCBs for each of the following elements:

1. Electrical transformers and capacitors manufactured up to the end of 1986;
2. Caulks on buildings constructed before 1975;
3. Hazardous paints dating before 1975 with a technical function, i.e. anti-corrosion paints, paints on floors and walls subject to heavy stress and waterproofing paints.



PCB diagnostic

- Inspection is performed by specialized companies (PCBs, Asbestos, PAH, Lead)
- Inspectors must be trained to conduct diagnostics and samplings
- A national exam is available
- A list of trained and competent inspectors is provided by the authority (Geneva canton)

| ENTREPRISES SUR GENEVE | | LES EXPERTS | | Diagnostic amiante | Suivi amiante | Diagnostic PCB | Suivi PCB |
|--|-------------------------|-----------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| | compétence non reconnue | | compétence PCB reconnue | | compétence amiante reconnue | | compétence retirée |
| 1AIRSUP | | | | | | | |
| Route du Nant-d'Avril 150 1217 Meyrin contact@1airsup.ch www.1airsup.ch | | | | | | | |
| 022 596 79 86 | - Smain | Nedjari | | | | | |
| 3Conseils | | | | | | | |
| Chemin de la Tour-de-Pinchat 27 1234 Vessy info@3conseils.ch www.3conseils.ch | | | | | | | |
| 076 311 05 14 | - Roger | Fernandes | | | | | |
| | - Frédéric | Wursten | | | | | |
| AB ingénieurs SA | | | | | | | |
| Chemin de la Mousse 80 1226 Thônex info@absa.ch www.absa.ch | | | | | | | |
| 022 349 80 88 | - Mickael | Heiniger | | | | | |
| | - Gaëlle | Viret-Schlatter | | | | | |
| Abysse Expertise | | | | | | | |
| Rue de Lausanne 37 1201 Genève abysse.geneve@gmail.com www.abysse-diag.ch | | | | | | | |
| 079 248 08 00 | - Dominik | Antic | | | | | |
| | - Alain | Berthet | | | | | |
| | - Mickael | Metral | | | | | |
| | - Sébastien | Nicaise | | | | | |

Currently more than 30 companies active in the field (diagnostic and/or remediation)

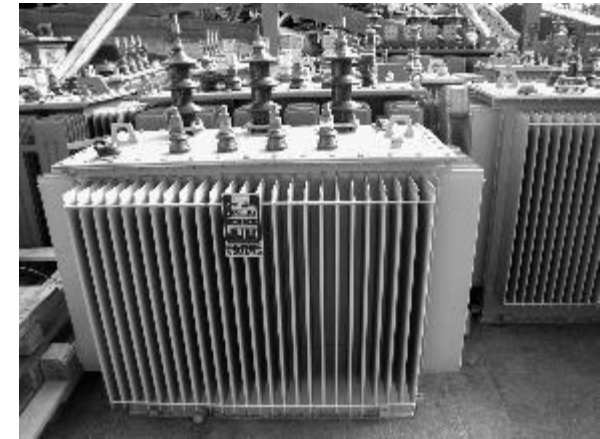
Guidelines in Switzerland

Transformers / Capacitors

A PCB analysis must be carried out before work begins:

- ✓ Installations built before 1987
- ✓ Capacitors can be identified with the "Chemsuisse capacitor directory" if they contain PCB
- ✓ No capacitor analyses, as they do not contain any easy access to the fluid

In case of doubt or lack of information, it is preferable to consider condensers as containing PCBs by default (PCB content > 50 mg/kg).



Guidelines in Switzerland



Paint on mineral substrates

A PCB analysis of paints and coatings must be carried out before work begins on:

- ✓ For buildings built before 1976
- ✓ For more than 20 m² of paint/coatings
- ✓ For paints having a technical function (e.g. waterproofing paint on floors under tank sumps, gymnasiums, hydraulic structures, cellars, laundry rooms, corridors, balconies, etc.)

In-depth analyses of the underlying masonry / concrete (secondary contamination) must also be carried out for paints / coatings with a PCB content > 1'000 mg/kg, as these mineral materials may contain PCBs through the migration (diffusion) effect of PCBs



Guidelines in Switzerland

Paint on metals

A PCB analysis of paints and coatings must be carried out before work begins on:

- ✓ Load-bearing structures in steel frameworks for industrial and commercial buildings and infrastructures
- ✓ Tanks with a capacity of over 200,000 l
- ✓ Gasometers and natural gas tanks
- ✓ Bridges
- ✓ Hydraulic installations and structures, such as power plants and sewage treatment plants
- ✓ High-voltage pylons.

In any case, if work on paints/coatings is likely to produce dust (e.g. sanding) PCB sampling and analysis is mandatory.



Guidelines in Switzerland



Paint on wood

A PCB analysis of paints and coatings must be carried out before work begins on:

- ✓ wood from attics and building exteriors, if disposal is performed in an installation not adapted to treat PCBs (low incineration temperature and/or no fume treatments)

Guidelines in Switzerland

Caulks

A PCB analysis of paints and coatings must be carried out before work begins on:

- ✓ For building dated before 1976
- ✓ Expansion joints such as connection joints, structural element joints, building separation joints and shrinkage joints
- ✓ For a minimum quantity of 10 linear meters per construction project

In-depth analyses of the underlying masonry / concrete (secondary contamination) must also be carried out for paints / coatings with a PCB content $> 1'000$ mg/kg, as these mineral materials may contain PCBs through the migration (diffusion) effect of PCBs



Reports

- ✓ Identification of pollutants (asbestos, PCB, lead, PAH, HBCD)



If pollutants are present, the owner is responsible for ordering remediation work



APA/323838/1 Lot en date du 09.12.2022
 Avenue Cardinal-Mermillod 36
 1227 Carouge
 T +4122 301 67 73
 F +4122 301 67 75
 info@batidiag.ch

DIAGNOSTIC AMIANTE - PCB - HAP - Plomb - HBCD « AVANT TRAVAUX - Complet »

Aménagement de locaux
 en hébergement pour migrants



| CONCLUSIONS SELON LIMITES DU DIAGNOSTIC (page 4) | |
|--|----------------------------|
| a Présence d'Amiante | PCB Présence de PCB |
| Pb Présence de Plomb | HAP Absence de HAP |
| HBCD Présence de HBCD | |

Reports

- A location map indicate all polluted element



Reports

- List of all elements that were sampled with indication of the pollutant

| Pièces | Polluant conc-erné (TYPE POLLUANT) | N° Echantillon/Sondage | Localisation | Description matériau | Quantité matériau | Présence polluant Oui/Non/Retiré | Sur la base de LAB/EXP/DIR/XRF | Remarques |
|--|---------------------------------------|------------------------|--------------|---------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------|
| Bât. 24 - Rez supérieur - Salles de douche | Am | ECH-007 | Sols | Linoleum tacheté + colle | | N | LAB | - |
| Bât. 24 - Rez supérieur - Salles de douche | Am | ECH-008 | Murs | Colle de faïence | | N | LAB | - |
| Bât. 24 - Rez supérieur - Salles de douche | Am | ECH-009 | Faux-plafond | Dalles 60x60 | 15 m2 | O | LAB | - |
| Bât. 24 - Rez supérieur - Salles de douche | PCB | SON-001 | Plafond | Condensateur de néons | 4 pièce(s) | O | LAB | - |
| Bât. 24 - Rez supérieur - Salles de douche | PB | 012 | Portes (A) | Bois-Peinture-Blanche | - | N | XRF | - |
| Bât. 24 - Rez supérieur - Salles de douche | PB | 013 | Mur (B) | Plâtre-Peinture-Blanche | | O | XRF | - |
| Bât. 24 - Rez supérieur - WC douche | Am | ECH-010 | Sols | Linoleum bleu + colle | | N | LAB | - |
| Bât. 24 - Rez supérieur - WC douche | Am | ECH-011 | Sols | Dalles vinyle + colle sous lino | | N | LAB | - |
| Bât. 24 - Rez supérieur - WC | | | | Colle de carrelage sous dalles | | | | |



Reports

- Pictures to identify elements



Sampling



Scratch sampling
Syringe aspiration



Active sampling on PUF
cartridge



Surface wipe

Sampling transformers

- Oil extracted through an opening (usually two possible openings: at the top and bottom of the transformer).
- Collection in a glass container (at least 2 ml), as PCB oils accumulate towards the bottom due to their high density.
- Precautions to prevent leakage during and after sampling
- The presence of a specialized electrical contractor is mandatory.



Sampling paints / caulks

- Use of PPE (disposable protective gloves)
- The sampling tool must be changed or cleaned to avoid contamination
- Sample wrapped in a glass container or aluminum foil, then in a plastic bag. In all cases, it is essential that the packaging is airtight.



Sampling air

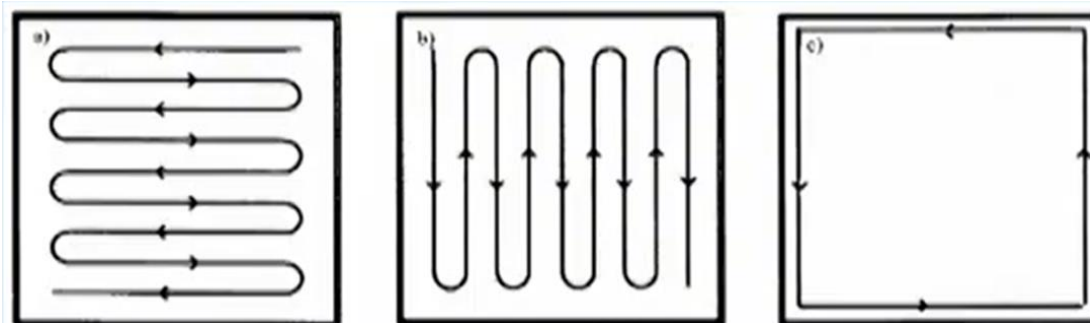
- Active sampling with pump on a support



| Method | Aérosol | Vapor | Sampling | Analysis |
|----------------------------|---|---|----------------|----------------|
| VDI 4300 / EPA TO10a - mod | PUF (alvéoles ouvertes, 22 mg/cm ³) | | 5h @ 5 l/min | GC / MS |
| ISO 16000-13 | Filtre 37 mm, quartz ou fibre de verre | PUF (alvéoles ouvertes, 22 mg/cm ³) | 8h @ 2 l/min | GC-FID / GC-MS |
| NIOSH 5503 | Filtre 13 mm, fibre de verre | Florisil 100mg/50mg | 4h @ 0.2 l/min | GC-ECD |
| ISO 12884 | Filtre 50 mm, fibre de verre | 2x PUF | 2h @ 46 l/min | GC-MS |

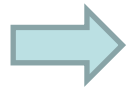
Sampling dust

- Wipe samples on a standardized surface (generally 10x10 cm = 100 cm²).
- The risk of cross-contamination is high, so gloves must be changed for each sample
- Field blanks must be performed

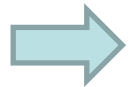


Rapid field tests

- ✓ Fast screening method to test electrical insulating fluids only
- ✓ test in less than 5 minutes
- ✓ Quantification based on Aroclor 1242 (conservative quantification)



Allow PCB detection and concentration range identification



Can be used before costly and time consuming lab analysis

Sample preparation

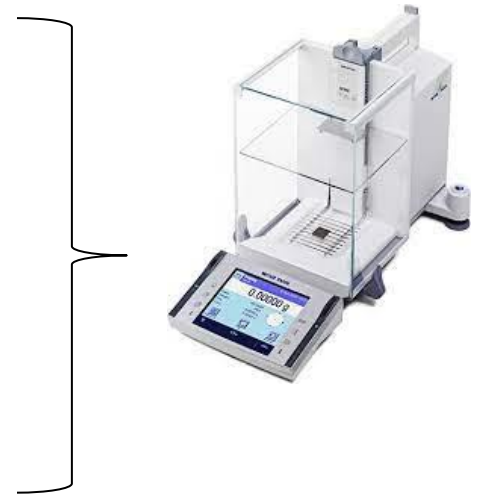
- Documentation (unique sample ID, description, etc.)

Caulks:

- A sub-sample is taken from the inner part of the caulk (avoid contamination issues)
- The sample is cut into small parts (few mm)

Paints:

- The sample is reduced to powder (homogeneity)



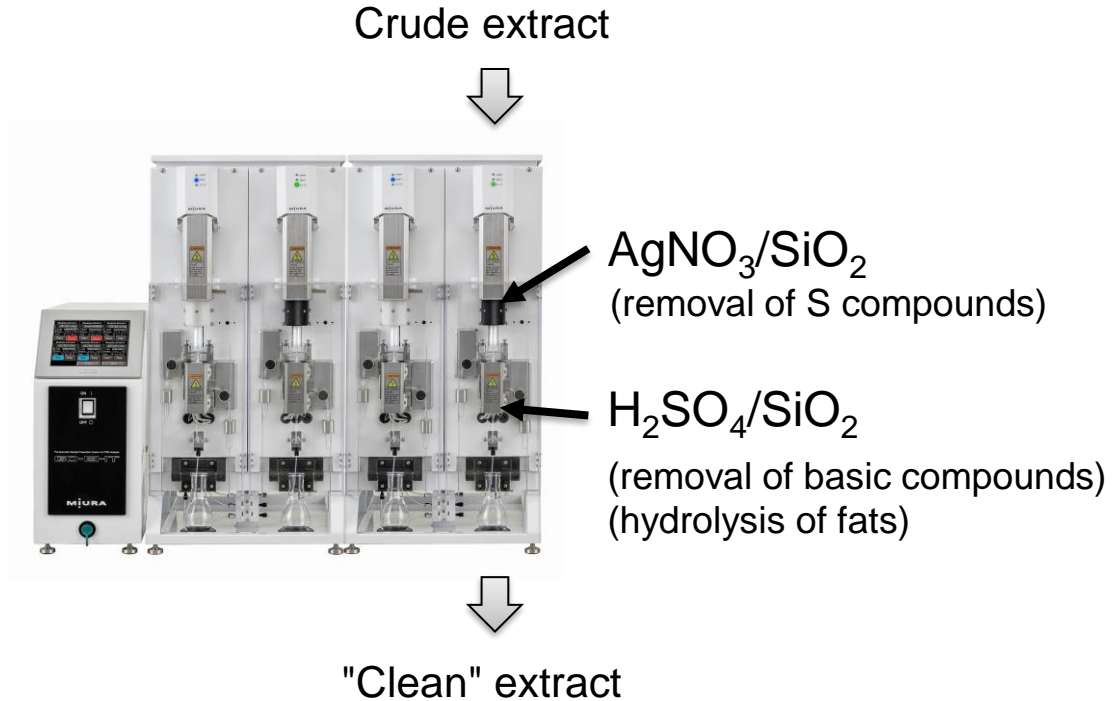
Extraction



P, T, organic solvents

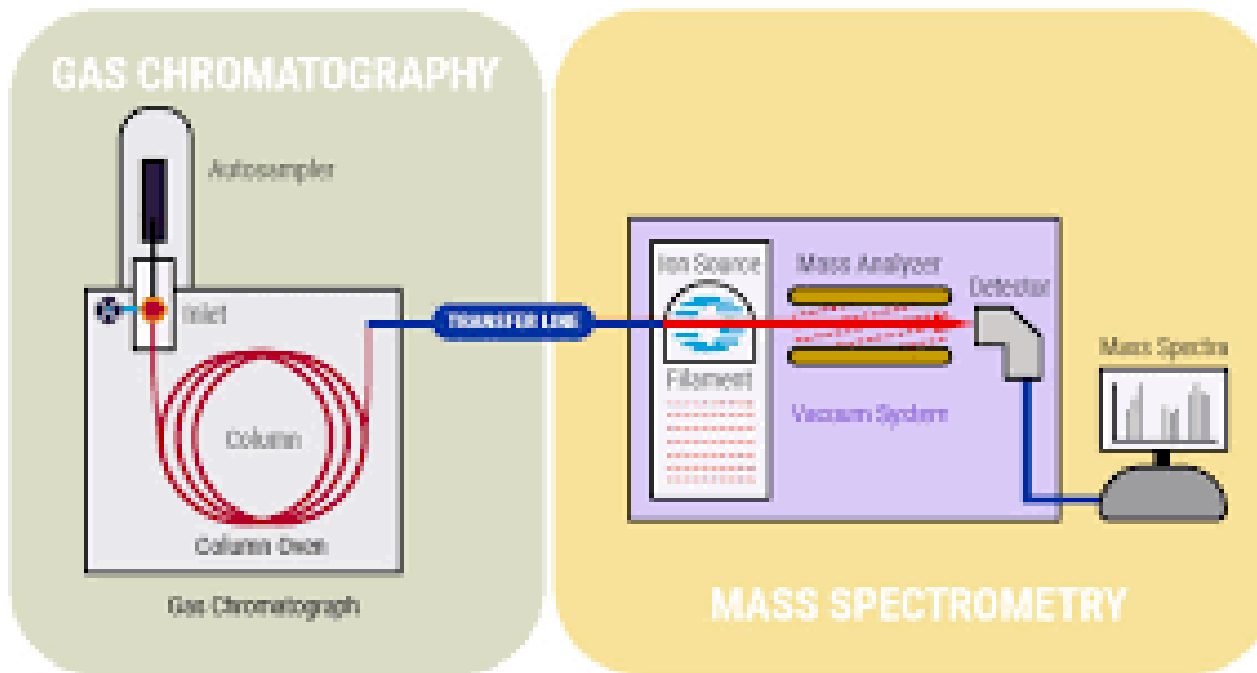


Clean-up



GC-MS Analysis

- Separation of congeners
- Identification and quantification of congeners



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ipfC_GB28Nc&feature=youtu.be

PCB e-Learning

CHEMICALS & WASTE
MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

PCB laboratory analysis

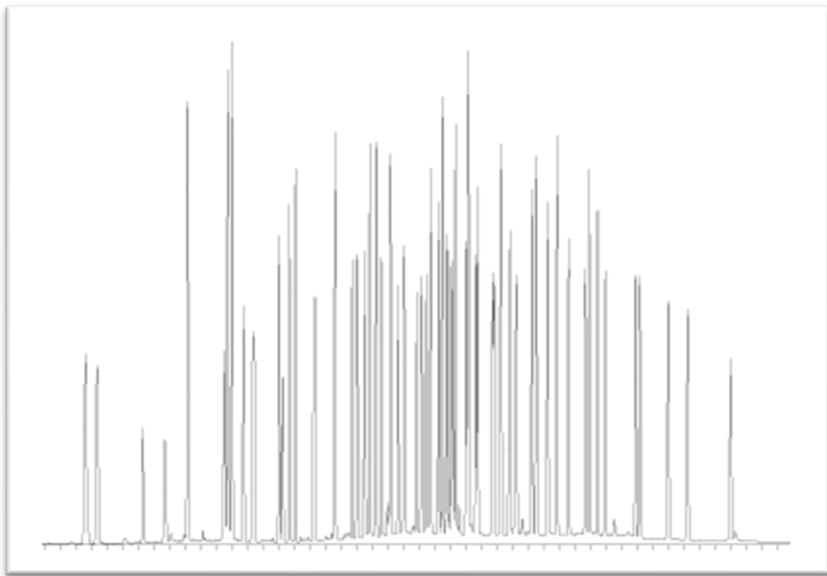


Analytical step

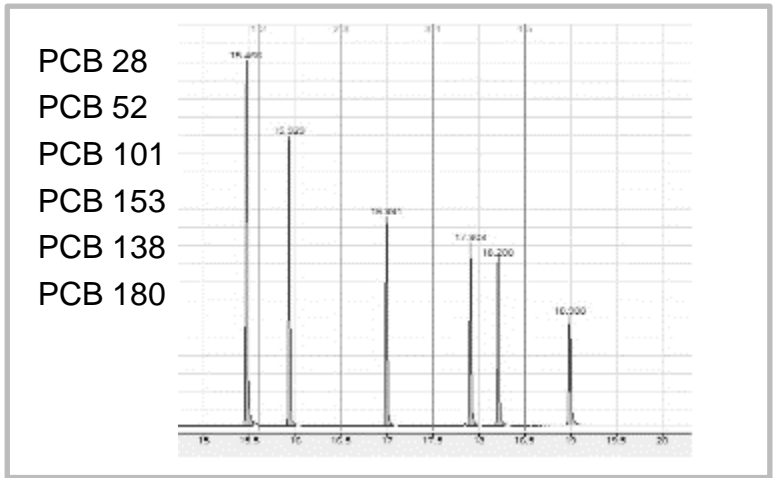


PCB quantification is simplified by the use of only few congeners from the mix

A technical mixture



6 indicator PCBs



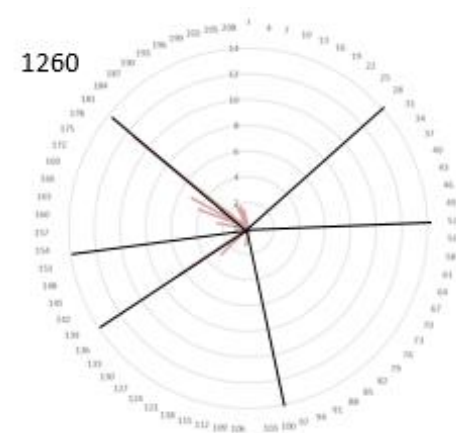
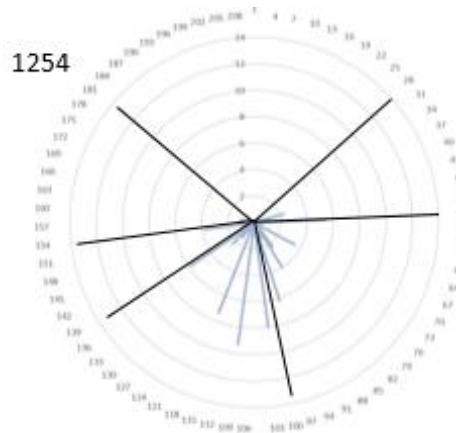
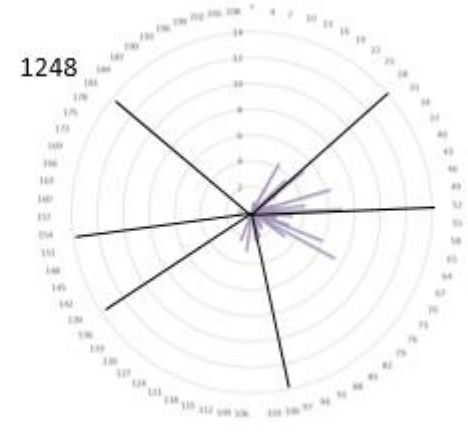
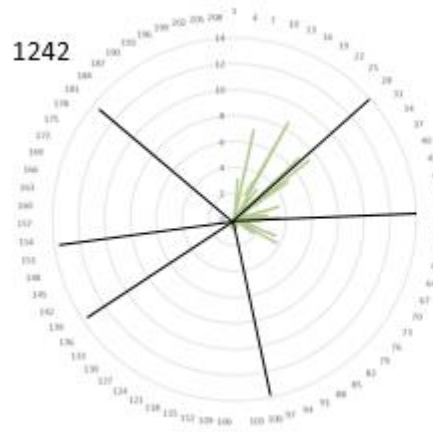
Data treatment

- Each technical mixture has characteristic quantities of the 6 indicative PCB
- The ratio of the 6 i PCB identifies the technical mixture

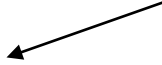


A conversion factor gives total PCB

| Mélange de PCB | Facteur de conversion <i>f</i> |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| Aroclor 1242 ou Clophen A 30 | 8,5 |
| Aroclor 1248 ou Clophen A 40 | 7,0 |
| Aroclor 1254 ou Clophen A 50 | 4,7 |
| Aroclor 1260 ou Clophen A 60 | 3,1 |
| Mélange Clophen A 50 / A 60, rapport des masses 1:1 | 4,4 |
| Mélange Clophen A 30 / A 40 / A 50 / A 60, rapport des masses 1:1:1:1 | 5,0 (« valeur conventionnelle ») |



Reference (orange) vs Sample (blue)



Best correlation

PCB quantification



$$\text{Total PCB} = [\text{iPCB}] \times \text{conversion factor (between 3.1 and 8.5)}$$

Value found from analysis

Value from the technical mixture identified

Equal to 5 if no identification


Laboratory quality

- Assesment and delivered by a national authority

ISO 17025 ACCREDITED



The signature of the ilac convention between countries allow for mutual recognition of the international standard



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun Svizra

Département fédéral de l'économie,
de la formation et de la recherche DEFR
Secrétariat d'Etat à l'économie SECO
Service d'accréditation suisse SAS

Registre STS Numéro d'accréditation : STS 0476

Norme internationale : ISO/CEI 17025:2017
Norme suisse : SN EN ISO/CEI 17025:2018

Service de l'air, du bruit et des rayonnements non ionisants (SABRA)
Secteur toxicologie et laboratoire air et matériaux (STOL)
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E-Mail : <mailto:philippe.favreau@etat.ge.ch>
Internet : <http://etat.geneve.ch/dt/toxicologie-pollutions/>

Première accréditation : 29.11.2006
Accréditation actuelle : 22.01.2021 au 21.01.2026
Registre voir : www.sas.admin.ch (Organismes accrédités)

Portée de l'accréditation dès 22.01.2021

Laboratoire d'essais pour les prélèvements et analyses dans les domaines de l'air et matériaux

| Produits, matériaux, domaine | Principe de mesure ²⁾ (caractéristiques, étendue de mesure, genres d'essais) | Méthodes d'essais, remarques (normes nationales et internationales, méthodes internes) |
|---|--|---|
| Prélèvement - Air intérieur (qualité de l'air, exposition publique) - Matériaux, poussières déposées - Air sous pression | Prélèvement de COV | Méthode interne (P06-01-02) |
| | Prélèvement pour analyse amiante ou PCB | Méthode interne (P06-01-03) |
| | Prélèvement et évaluation de la qualité de l'air de cylindre sous pression | Méthode interne (P06-01-04) |
| Essais - Air intérieur | TD-GC-MS - COV (qualitatif et quantitatif) | Méthode interne (P07-03-01) |

← Accreditation number

← Laboratory identification

← Validity for a given period

← Identification of the accredited methods

Remediation of caulks/paints with PCB

1. Removal with cutter

2. Joint removal with concrete sawing

3. Joint removal with concrete scratching

4. Paint removal (containment)

5. Release measures

"Standard" companies

Trained companies

Specialized companies

Remediation of caulks with PCB



Personal protective equipment
(mask, gloves, protective suit)



Remediation of caulks with PCB

Example



No dust !!!



Remediation of caulks with PCB

Banned practices



Removal of caulks with concrete scratching

Technique in containment

Step 1 : caulks removed with vacuum cleaning at the source

Step 2 : careful removal of joint residue with vacuuming at source

Step 3 : scraping of concrete over 3 mm
(diamond oscillating blade)
with vacuuming at the source



grinding forbidden !



Removal of caulks with concrete sanding



Initial situation:
127'647 mg/kg PCB



After remediation
< 5 mg/kg PCB



REPUBLIQUE
ET CANTON
DE GENEVE

POST TENEBRAS LUX

Département du territoire
Service de l'air, du bruit et des rayonnements ionisants

Remediation of paints with PCB

Principles

- a) Companies with **PCB training**
- b) Trained person present on site
- c) **PRC** sent to SABRA 10 days before work
- d) Mandatory "Status Quo" air analysis
- e) Release measures (**visual control + wipes + air analysis**)

PCB in dust

PCB in air

The "PRC" = Withdrawal and containment plan

- The address of the site;
- Location of elements contaminated with PCBs;
- The surface area of paintings to be cleaned up in square metres;
- The duration of the intervention;
- The protective measures implemented;
- The type and model of tools used;
- The air balance of the zones;
- The analyses that will be carried out before, during and after the work to determine possible exposure of people or contamination of the environment.

Remediation of paints with PCB

Techniques : anything that does not produce dust and/or gases



Otherwise: stripping with aspiration at source



The release measures

After remediation : Zone cleaned, protection inside the containment removed

Step 1 : visual control + Wipes

- No residues or dust
- PCB conc. $< 10 \mu\text{g}/100 \text{ cm}^2$

Step 2 : After 2 days minimum, PCB analysis in air

- PCB $< 600 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$



If no precautions...

Sanding metallic structures with PCB paint in cabin ~20'000 mg/kg de PCB (2%)

Contaminated dust in the whole company

- cabin (~500 $\mu\text{g}/100\text{cm}^2$)
- All site (40-180 $\mu\text{g}/100\text{cm}^2$)

Decision criteria : 10 $\mu\text{g}/100\text{cm}^2$ (US)

- Worker protected during operation
- Workers and public exposed AFTER the work on the company site



After remediation (air analyses):

3-4 $\mu\text{g} / \text{m}^3$ (cabine)

0.2 $\mu\text{g} / \text{m}^3$ (atelier)

Maximal conc., 8h/day occupation: **6 $\mu\text{g} / \text{m}^3$** (OFEV - population)

Maximal conc., 8h/day occupation: **500 $\mu\text{g} / \text{m}^3$** (MAK – worker)

If not using the right techniques...



Grinding

Avant l'assainissement: < 100 ng/m³ PCB



Source ETI Umwelttechnik AG



Source ETI Umwelttechnik AG

After remediation:
> 4'000 ng/m³ PCB



Source ETI Umwelttechnik AG



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Service de l'air, du bruit et des rayonnements ionisants

Thank you for your attention



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