

PCBs in Caulk



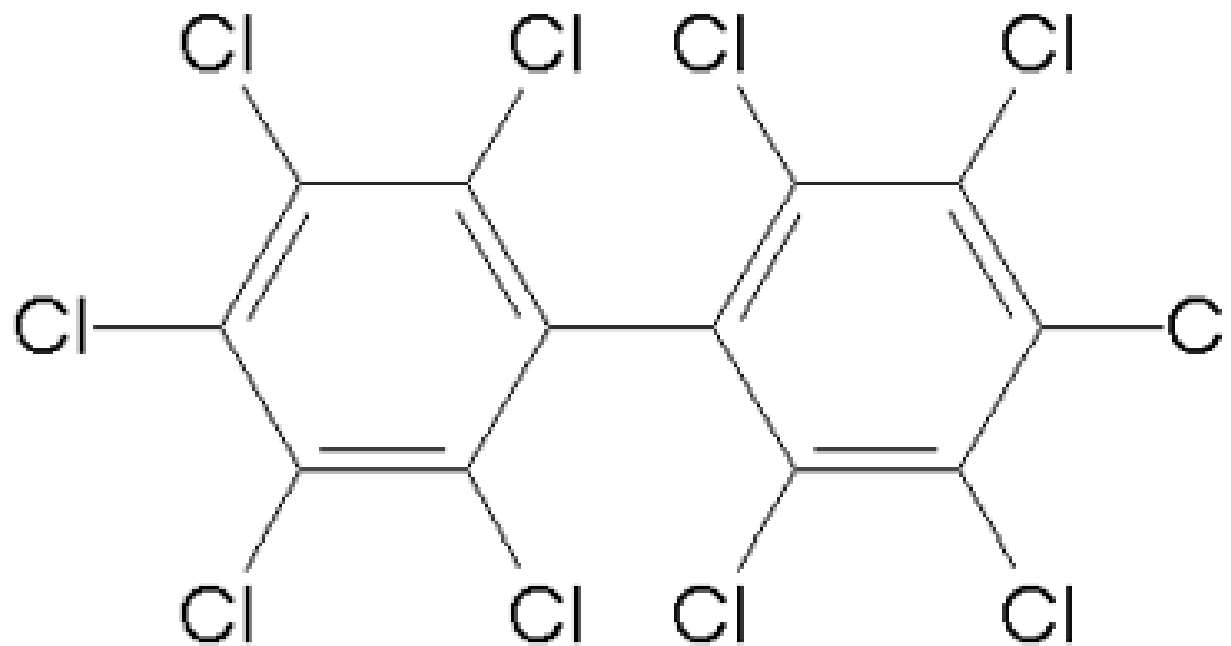
Overview

- What are PCBs?
- What's wrong with PCBs?
- Where are PCBs found in schools?
- PCBs in caulk
- PCBs that have migrated to adjoining materials
- Disposal

What are PCBs?

- Man made chemicals
- First introduced into commerce in the early 1930's
- Production was prohibited in 1978 but major uses were authorized that continue today

The PCB molecule



Useful properties

- Stability
- Don't burn
- Good insulators
- Plasticizers,
- Pigments

What's wrong with PCBs?

- Don't biodegrade
- Accumulate in the environment
- Soluble in
 - ◆ Water endocrine, immune,
 - ◆ Fat nervous, reproductive systems damage
- Probable human carcinogens
- Estrogenic compounds

What's this?



The Basis of the Ocean Food Chain

and this?



The next step up the food chain leading to all of us



Some consequences of release

- Phytoplankton
- Killer whale
- Consumption of fish
- US population
- Worldwide contaminant
- Stockholm convention

Where are PCBs found in schools?

- Caulk, coatings, and adhesives
- Carbonless copy paper
- Fluorescent light ballasts
- Transformers
- Capacitors

***Images of PCB Caulk Found
in EPA Regions 1 and 2***



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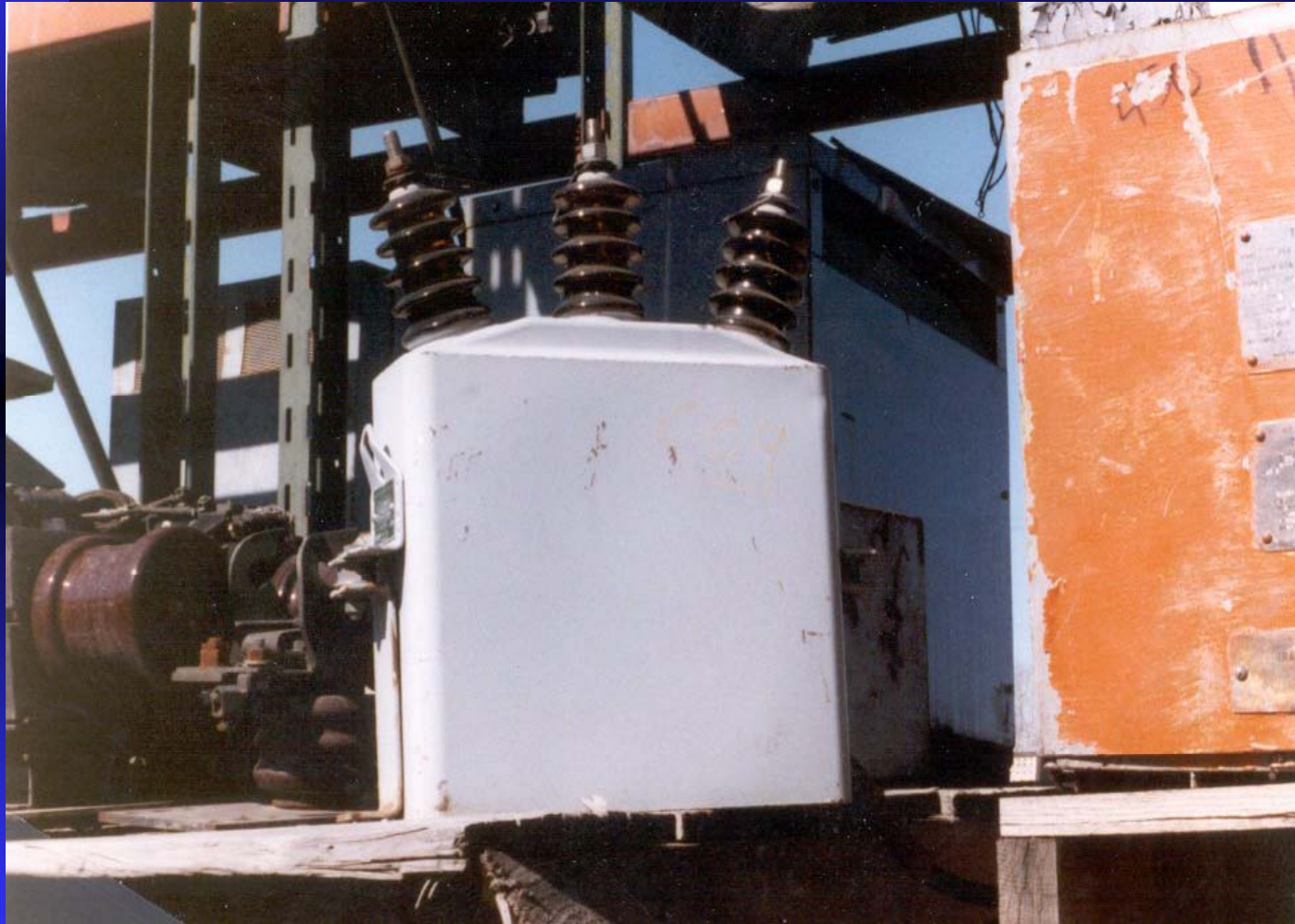




■ in transformers



■ in capacitors



■ in fluorescent light ballasts



How do I identify PCBs in caulk?

- Visually NO
- Simple test NO
- Sample YES
- Laboratory analysis YES
- \$100

What about adjoining materials?

- If caulk contains ≥ 50 ppm PCBs they may have migrated to adjoining materials which should be sampled.
- If the adjoining materials contain PCBs > 1 ppm they are **remediation wastes** because the original source was ≥ 50 ppm PCBs.

What must I do if I find out that caulk has PCBs?

- REMOVE caulk with PCBs ≥ 50 ppm
- REMOVE contaminated adjoining materials
- Caulk with PCBs < 50 ppm MAY REMAIN
- Keep in mind
- Caulk with PCBs < 50 ppm MAY PRESENT A HAZARD

Regulatory status of removed caulk

- Caulk which has been removed and contains PCBs at concentrations ≥ 50 ppm is **PCB bulk product waste**, and is regulated for disposal.
- Adjoining contaminated materials containing PCBs at concentrations > 1 ppm (the result of a release from the caulk), are **remediation wastes** and are regulated for disposal.

Disposal

- Do not allow PCB contaminated caulk to remain on playgrounds.
- Dispose
 - ◆ federal (PCB) regulations
 - ◆ state regulations
- Consult with your EPA Regional office.

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Thanks you for your attention.

Please see
<http://www.epa.gov/pcbsincaulk>
for further information