



Flexible Vinyl Alliance

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Flexible Vinyl: By the Numbers

2010

Today, vinyl, which is derived from natural gas and salt, has hundreds of uses: it may be rigid and impact resistant enough for pipe or siding, or thin and flexible enough for wallcovering and upholstery. It can be made weather and heat resistant, durable and tactile, and is imminently recyclable. With such versatility, vinyl is suitable for an almost limitless range of products.

\$20 Billion

The flexible vinyl industry is a significant contributor to the domestic economy with an estimated annual value that exceeds \$20B for the North American manufacturing and retail sectors.

1000 Sites/ 47 States

Flexible vinyl related operations throughout the value-added supply chain include more than 1,000 manufacturing sites in 47 states.

275,000+ Workers

It is estimated that the flexible vinyl industry employs more than 275,000 domestic workers, and is part of the larger contingent of plastics production workforce that exceeds 1 million persons domestically.

50 Years of safe use

Flexible vinyl has a long track record as a safe, affordable, durable and sustainable. Vinyl additives have been studied closely by independent scientists, the federal government, and industry and used safely for more than 50 years.

50 Years of saving lives

Wire and cables sheathed with PVC prevent potentially fatal electrical accidents. In hospitals around the world PVC medical tubing— which does not break or kink – delivers fluids and medicines to the sick. Vinyl flooring and wallcoverings help prevent infections by being resilient and easy to clean. Car components which use light yet very strong PVC can reduce the risk of any injuries being caused in case of an accident. Flexible, flat-folding temporary disaster shelters and field-deployed surgical suites help victims of war and disaster survive, such as in Haiti and Iraq. Most PVC products are long lasting – up to and over 50 years. Modern cars, for example, last many years longer simply because PVC protects the underside from water and corrosion.



1 Billion Lbs.

PVC is inherently recyclable. More than 1 billion pounds are recycled annually according to a recent study.

99%

99% of manufacturing vinyl industrial waste is reprocessed; millions of pounds of post-consumer vinyl are also recycled.

20+

Since the late 1980s, more than 20 life-cycle evaluations have been completed on PVC products, many of them comparing those products to similar products made of other materials. PVC products were found to perform favorably in terms of energy efficiency, thermal-insulating value, low contribution to greenhouse gases and product durability, which means using fewer resources.

\$17.7 Billion

The net cost to consumers per year in the United States and Canada for the substitution of alternative materials for PVC-based products that they currently use. Producers of the substitute materials would need \$5.6B in new investment to manufacture the incremental volume of substitute material, and incur \$2.8B per year in capital recovery charges. (Source: *Economic Benefits of PVC*, Whitfield Associates, 2008)

80+

The FVA is a coalition of more than 80 materials suppliers, compounders, formulators, molders, fabricators, and converters that represent the full value chain of the industry. The FVA is aligned with more than 900 additional businesses, retailers and manufacturers through its allied trade groups.

Be a Part of FVA

The Flexible Vinyl Alliance was formed to work in conjunction with existing industry groups and companies in the plastics and manufacturing areas, to create positive messages and advocacy that will lead to sensible discussion of the issue surrounding flexible vinyl. The FVA advocates for the continued and expanded use of flexible vinyl products through education and information exchange between industry, lawmakers and the general public that speaks to the value safety and effectiveness of flexible vinyl products. The goal of the FVA is to enhance the unrestrained selection of flexible vinyl products in the global marketplace.



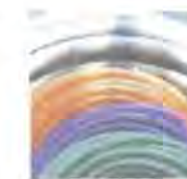
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Flexible Hose Products



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The Simple Elements of Vinyl

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