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# Flame Retardants

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US Industry Study with Forecasts for **2013 & 2018**

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Study #2557 | September 2009 | \$4700 | 225 pages

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**The Freedonia Group**

767 Beta Drive

Cleveland, OH • 44143-2326 • USA

Toll Free US Tel: 800.927.5900 or +1 440.684.9600

Fax: +1 440.646.0484

E-mail: [info@freedoniagroup.com](mailto:info@freedoniagroup.com)

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*Flame retardant advances will reflect renewed vigor in key markets such as insulated wire and cable, and construction, as well as more stringent fire codes and flammability requirements.*

## US demand to reach \$900 million in 2013

US demand for flame retardants is expected to reverse its decline and is forecast to expand 2.7 percent per annum to 950 million pounds in 2013, valued at \$900 million. Flame retardant advances will reflect renewed vigor in key markets such as insulated wire and cable, and construction. Other stimulants include more stringent fire codes and flammability requirements. Price increases will moderate significantly due to more normal energy and raw material costs.

## Phosphorus compounds to be fastest growing type

The industry will continue to be impacted by trends away from halogenated flame retardants due to health and environmental concerns. Alumina trihydrate will continue to be the most widely used flame retardant type, accounting for 43 percent of total demand due to its low cost, excellent performance and widespread applications. Best growth is expected for phosphorus-based flame retardants. Growth will be driven by non-halogenated phosphorus grades, which have a more benign environmental footprint than brominated compounds, which will rise at the slowest pace, restrained by legislative mandates and customer demands for more environmentally-friendly materials. Demand for chlorinated compounds will decrease



through 2013 due to their adverse health and environmental impacts.

## Wire & cable to be fastest growing market

Construction products accounted for one-third of total flame retardant demand and will grow at an average pace to 313 million pounds in 2013, driven by insulation and cushioning opportunities for flame retardants used in foamed polyurethane and polystyrene. Insulated wire and cable will exhibit the fastest growth in light of rapidly rebounding wire and cable production. Motor vehicle markets will be buoyed by rising production levels, elevated temperatures in under-the-hood applications and in-

creased use of lighter weight plastic materials, which offer improved fuel efficiency. Flame retardants used in electrical and electronic products will grow at a slow pace through 2013 due to the continued exodus of electronics production to offshore countries with lower labor costs and governmental incentives, particularly in Asia. Textile markets for flame retardants will also exhibit slow growth due to the cost advantages of offshore producers. Smaller aircraft and aerospace markets will be stimulated by stricter flame retardance standards, the aging of the commercial aircraft fleet and growing military aircraft procurement levels.

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## Sample Text, Table & Chart

### PRODUCTS

#### Alumina Trihydrate

Demand for alumina trihydrate (ATH) flame retardants to \$1 billion in 2008, and is projected to reach \$1.5 billion in 2013, with growth opportunities in key markets such as automotive seats and rugs, and residential fire retardant treated flame retardants will also be used in applications previously using halogenated flame retardants. The high ATH requirements are threatened by the high ATH requirements which can compromise the mechanical strength of the material to which it is added. Additionally, ATH has a relatively low upper-use temperature, which prohibits its use with high processing temperatures such as polypropylene and

By volume, alumina trihydrate accounted for 43 percent of flame retardants used in the US in 2008, yet only 14 percent of market value. ATH is the least expensive product on the market on a per pound basis, although larger quantities are needed to achieve the same level of flame retardance as lesser quantities of other products. In plastics applications, ATH often functions as a filler and extender in addition to a flame retardant. As a flame retardant, ATH releases its contained moisture when exposed to fire, which helps to absorb heat energy as well as release moisture into the air, which dilutes combustible gases and toxic fumes. ATH thus functions as both a flame retardant and a smoke and fume suppressant.

Despite ATH's popularity as a flame retardant in plastic applications, it does have its drawbacks. For example, ATH cannot be used if the plastic processing temperature exceeds 390 degrees Fahrenheit. Additionally, the high loading factors required can lead to a decrease in the mechanical and electrical properties of the plastic. In response, a number of producers have introduced surface modified grades of ATH, usually with silicone compounds, that improve processability.

132

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TABLE IV-3

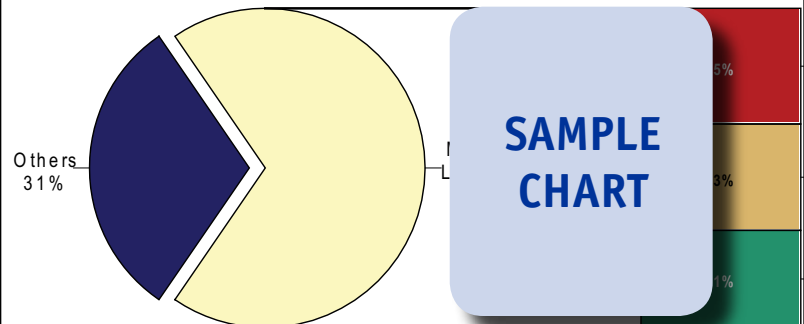
### CONSTRUCTION PRODUCTS MARKET FOR FLAME RETARDANTS (million pounds)

Item	1998	2003	2008	2013	2018
Building Construct Expend (bil 2000\$)	600	600	600	600	600
lb FR/mil \$ construction expend					
Flame Retardants in Construction	2	2	2	2	2
Insulation					
Roofing Material					
Wood Panel Binder Resins					
Other Construction Products	1	1	1	1	1
\$/lb					
FR Demand in Construction (mil \$)					
% construction					
Flame Retardant Demand (mil \$)					

SAMPLE TABLE

CHART VI-1

### US FLAME RETARDANT MARKET SHARE, 2008 (\$750 million)



SAMPLE CHART

## Sample Profile, Table & Forecast

**TABLE III-4**  
**POLYOLEFINS DEMAND FOR FLAME RETARDANTS**  
 (million pounds)

Item	1998	2003	2008	2013	2018
Polyolefins Demand	375	400	425	450	475
lb FR/000 lb polyolefins					
Flame Retardants in Polyolefins					
Alumina Trihydrate					
Brominated Compounds					
Chlorinated Compounds					
Antimony Trioxide					
Other Flame Retardants					
\$/lb					
FR Demand in Polyolefins (mil \$)					
% polyolefins					
Flame Retardant Demand (mil \$)	56	60	65	70	75

**SAMPLE  
TABLE**

**COMPANY PROFILES**

**Eastern Color & Chemical Company**  
 35 Livingston Street  
 Providence, RI 02904  
 401-331-9000  
<http://www.easterncolor.net>

Annual Sales  
 Employment  
 Key Products

**SAMPLE  
PROFILE**

Eastern Color & Chemical Company is a manufacturer of pigment dispersants, paper, paper, textiles and plastics. Key products include foaming agents, thickeners, wetting agents, and wetting agents, among other industrial chemicals. Eastern Color & Chemical operates through five main divisions: Pigment, Pulp and Paper Chemical/Pigment, Chemical, Lenox Chemical and International.

The Company competes in the US flame retardant market via the Pulp and Paper Chemical/Pigment division and the Chemical division. Among other products, these divisions make flameproofing agents. Eastern Color & Chemical's flameproofing agents are marketed under the ECCO FLAMEPROOF and ECCOGARD brand names.

ECCO FLAMEPROOF flameproofing agents from Eastern Color & Chemical include several grades designed to insure flame retardance when used in textiles. Examples of these products are ECCO FLAMEPROOF LB-2 liquid flameproofing agents for dry-clean-only fabrics; ECCO FLAMEPROOF CPE semi-durable organic phosphate reaction formulations for synthetics and cellulosics; ECCO FLAMEPROOF

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"Demand for flame retardants used in polystyrene plastics will expand 1.5 percent yearly to 54 million pounds in 2013, valued at \$93 million. Opportunities are anticipated for construction products such as flame retardant polystyrene insulation panels, with further growth constrained by a sluggish nonresidential construction market. Demand for flame retardant polystyrene in electrical and electronics applications will be restrained due to ..."

--Section III, pg. 47



**OTHER STUDIES**

**Construction Chemicals**

US on-site construction chemical demand will rise 3.4% yearly through 2013. Gains will be driven by a rebound in the housing market, a shift to higher value products and solid home improvement and repair spending. Caulks and adhesives will surpass protective coatings and sealers as the largest product segment by 2013. This study analyzes the \$7.7 billion US construction chemical industry, with forecasts for 2013 and 2018 by product and application. It also evaluates company market share and profiles industry players.

#2569 ..... 01/2010..... \$4700

**Specialty Gases**

US specialty gas demand will rise 3.5% yearly through 2013. Manufacturing will remain the largest market while health care grows the fastest. Analytical gases will outpace other applications due to the increasing need to monitor pollutants, maximize production efficiency, monitor product quality, render diagnosis, etc. This study analyzes the \$2.9 billion US specialty gases industry, with forecasts for 2013 and 2018 by product, market and application. It also details market share and profiles industry players.

#2519 ..... 08/2009..... \$4700

**Wood Protection Coatings & Preservatives**

US demand for wood protection products is forecast to increase 2.2% per year through 2013. Higher value formulations will continue to gain market share, primarily due to environmental and performance issues. Interior wood applications will achieve the best gains, promoted by a rebound in both housing starts and remodeling. This study analyzes the \$2.7 billion US wood protection industry, with forecasts for 2013 and 2018 by product, application and market. It also evaluates market share and profiles industry players.

#2509 ..... 07/2009..... \$4800

**World Hydrogen**

This study analyzes the world market for merchant hydrogen. It presents historical demand data for the years 1998, 2003 and 2008 and forecasts for 2013 and 2018 by hydrogen application (e.g., petroleum refining, chemical manufacturing), world regional market (e.g., North America, Western Europe, Asia/Pacific), and for 15 major national markets. The study also considers market environment factors, details industry structure, evaluates company market share and profiles industry participants.

#2605 ..... 02/2010..... \$5300

**World Textile Chemicals**

Global demand for textile chemicals will reach \$19 billion in 2012. Colorants and auxiliaries will remain the biggest product segment, while faster gains will be seen in finishing chemicals. The Asia/Pacific region, particularly China and India, will remain the largest consumer of textile chemicals, and is also forecast to grow the fastest. This study analyzes the \$16.6 billion world textile chemical industry, with forecasts for 2012 and 2017 by type, world region and for 22 countries. It also evaluates market share and profiles industry players.

#2426 ..... 12/2008..... \$5700

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