

# Impact of FCN772 for Future Food Packaging Applications with UV/EB Technology

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The Real-Life Converting Practice

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### **Common Concerns from Converters**

- Odor (1st generation RM, by-products)/ Taste
- Migration (un-reacted RM, fragment-PI)
- Lack of simple & secure cure monitoring mechanism
- Lack of understanding regarding FDA status /regulations of UV/EB chemistry
- Lack of proper testing protocols

#### Regulations from US Food & Drug Administration

#### Food Contact Substance:

"any substance intended for use as a component of materials used in manufacturing, packaging, packing, transportation, or holding food if such use is not intended to have a technical effect in food".

#### Statutory Exemption Evaluation:

Evaluation options by which food contact substances can be determined to be exempt from or compliant with FDA regulations.

- Threshold of Regulation Letter Basic Polymer Doctrine.

- GRAS Substances.
- Mixture Doctrine.
- Prior-Sanctioned Substances. Houseware Exemption.
- "No Migration"/ "No Food Additive" Determination. (50 ppb)
- Functional Barrier Doctrine. (50 ppb)

#### **Examples under FDA Statutory Exemption Evaluation:**

#### \* Well-known Industry Example:

Epoxy Can Coatings for foods & beverages. (No Migration/no food additive Exemption).

#### \* Radtech industry Efforts: (few examples)

- Ciba-Geigy Indirect FDA compliant initiator.
- Goldschmidt Chemicals Cationic Release Coating.
- Sun Chemicals --- FDA UV/EB compliant inks.
- Henkel Advanced Testing Protocol & Products for FDA compliance UV/EB coatings & adhesives. #
- Northwest Coating (now Ashland) UV/EB laminating adhesives

#### , ... etc.

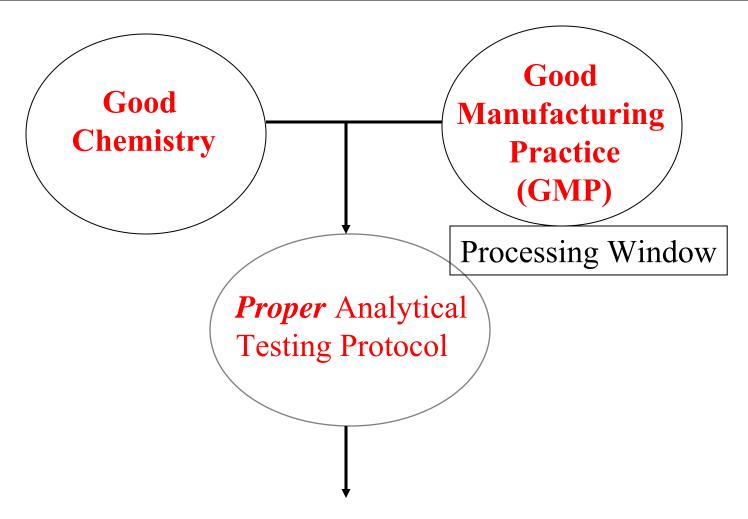
# Reference papers in "TAPPI 2002 PLACE; Radtech Europe Conference 2003; 2005 TAPPI-Europe-PLACE; Radtech 2004 e/5 Conference; 2005 PIRA Conference (London)."

#### What are the impacts of FCN772?

- A giant step to initiate the creation of a comprehensive list of acrylated materials under FCN (Food Contact Notification).
- Industry-wide understanding and awareness of UV/EB chemistry in food packaging applications.
- More food packaging applications utilizing UV/EB chemistry as green alternative.
- Broader design latitude & more economic products.
- EB curing system may no longer hold dominating position in food packaging applications.

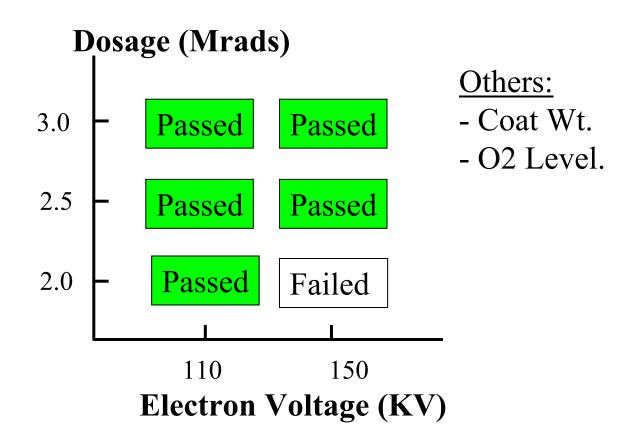
# The Real-Life Converting Practice

#### FDA Certification Guide for EB Converters



FDA Compliant EB/UV curable Packages

#### **Proper formulation + Good manufacturing Practice**



#### **Processing Window determination for Formula #3**

Coated and cured on 50 Gauge OPP film based on 95% ethanol cell extraction results for direct food contact. (Coating weight range :1.5-1.9 lb/ream, condition of use "E")

#### **Important Overriding Factors**

- Odor & Taste Test.
- Improper Cure.

(Outside recommended processing window) (UV lamp aging, loss or inertness for EB)

- Un-intended Contamination.

(e.g. slinging to backside of the substrate & no UV light or EB penetration)

- *Porous Stocks* (especially crucial for UV curing).
- *Production line vs. pilot/lab* (initial certification & systematic QC check extractables)

# Potential & Emerging UV/EB Applications In Food Packaging

### Flexible Packaging







#### **Real life Commercial Products**

#### **EB Coatings Replacing Paper & Film Laminates**

Old Structure
(Laminated)

New Structure
(Mono-Web)

- Elimination of Lacquering Step, One film Layer & Laminating Adhesive
- On-Demand Manufacturing/Inventory Reduction
- Applied the New Testing Protocol for FDA Certification
- FDA Compliant for Direct or In-direct Applications.
- •10-20% Cost Saving with Commercial Success.

#### **Folding Cartons**



Mainly EB systems currently
More UV systems
to participate

Tags, Labels & Wrappers

More can claim FDA compliant.



# Due-Diligence Processes. Common Concerns from Converters

Grounds for product rejection even with full FDA compliance. - Odor / Taste Qualify each product construction - Migration (different inks, substrates) & its production process windows - Lack of simple & secure cure monitoring FCN status is not a blank check
Good Manufacturing Process
Properly cured; Record keeping
Establish proper QC sampling Somewhat mechanism - Lack of understanding regarding FDA status /regulations of UV/EB chemistry - Lack of proper testing protocols

#### **Additional Considerations**

- Product liability.
- Regional regulatory limits.
- Total package safety guaranteed by converters. (coating, inks, substrates, food type & condition of use).
- Need to develop direct press side test method (for complying with *migration limits*; only indirect properties measurement).
- New medical studies /new toxicity data.

## Summary

- FCN772 represents Radtech FCN member group effort to raise industry awareness of the possibility of using UV/EB technology in food packaging applications.
- FDA compliance for acrylates including FCN772 will still be contingent on proper curing, certification, GMP, frequent QC sampling. (Unlike GRAS or prior-sanctioned substance).
- There is still need to develop direct press side test method for complying with migration limits.
- UV/EB Chemistry has become one of the choices of main stream chemistries in food packaging applications.



# Thank You!