



American Composites Manufacturers
Association
1010 North Glebe Road, Suite 450
Arlington, VA 22201

ACMA Action on Report on Carcinogens

- **New science.** The styrene industry group SIRC is sponsoring two major studies - one using genetically modified mice to evaluate the [relevance of styrene-induced mouse lung tumors](#) to human risk assessment, and the other updating the major long-term study of the health of U.S. composite industry workers.
- **Better scientific review.** ACMA and its association partners proposed language for the Department of Health and Human Services 2011-12 budget that would order a full [weight-of-the-evidence cancer assessment for styrene](#) by the National Academy of Sciences.
- **Congressional oversight.** In 1978, Congress directed in HHS' predecessor agency to publish the RoC, but since then Congress has exercised no oversight of the program. The industry recently asked the staff and leadership of the House Small Business, Energy and Commerce, and Science committees to conduct an oversight hearing to investigate and illuminate the flaws in the RoC program that have led to the scientifically invalid styrene assessment.
- **Legal action.** SIRC brought June 10 suit against HHS charging that NTP's styrene listing was illegally based on distortions of the science. U.S. District Court Judge Reggie Walton heard July 5 oral arguments in a SIRC motion for a [preliminary injunction](#) ordering HHS to withdraw the styrene listing. Judge Walton denied the motion for an injunction, and suggested that the government "has the stronger position" regarding the merits of the case. However, the case is proceeding and additional oral arguments before the judge are expected to take place in early 2012.
- **OSHA container labels.** Under OSHA's Hazard Communication Standard, drums and other containers of substances with more than 0.1% of NTP-listed carcinogens must have [cancer warning labels](#), and manufacturers and employers have 90 days from "becoming aware of" a listing to properly label all drums and other containers. On July 20, ACMA wrote to OSHA asking for [clarification of an agency policy](#) that may allow the industry to avoid the labeling requirement. A meeting with OSHA management has been scheduled for August 25 to review the industry request.
- **Industry support.** Since April, ACMA members have [participated in Monthly Fly-Ins](#), and the meetings of industry representatives with Members of Congress and staff have been [instrumental in securing the support](#) of a number of key Representatives and Senators. The Monthly Fly-Ins are expected to continue for the next several months.
- **Congressional support.** Sixty-three House members wrote May 11 to HHS Secretary Kathleen Sebelius, expressing their concern about the [flawed science behind the NTP styrene assessment](#), and the likely impact on smaller companies. Recently, the co-chairs of the House Manufacturing, Composites and Boating caucuses wrote to key House committee chairman [supporting oversight hearings and the NAS styrene review](#).
- **SBA support.** The Small Business Administration Office of Advocacy wrote December 1 to HHS Secretary Sebelius, arguing in reference to the RoC styrene listing that "it is [crucial that the science used by HHS...be above reproach](#)". To support continuing SBA advocacy for good science, ACMA testified July 29 at an SBA environmental roundtable regarding the concern that the styrene cancer listing will cause our employees and plant neighbors to fear that they are "reasonably anticipated to get cancer", and will [make it much harder for our companies to remain in business](#), placing as many as 250,000 composite industry jobs at risk.