



To: The Honorable Edward J. Markey
Chairman
Subcommittee on Energy and Environment

Fax #: 202.226.0092

cc: The Honorable Henry A. Waxman
Chairman
House Energy & Commerce Committee

Fax #: 202.225.8041

The Honorable Joe Barton
Ranking Member
House Energy & Commerce Committee

Fax #: 202.225.1919

The Honorable Fred Upton
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Energy & Environment
House Energy & Commerce Committee

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From: Richard F. Theiler, Ph.D.
Senior Vice President
Research and Development

Pages: 3 (Including cover page)

Date: May 6, 2010

Note: Original copy being sent via Federal Express.



May 6, 2010

The Honorable Edward J. Markey
Chairman, Subcommittee on
Energy and Environment
Committee on Energy and Commerce
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

This letter is in response to your April 13, 2010, correspondence to Henkel of America, Inc. ("Henkel") regarding antibacterial healthcare and personal care wash products containing triclosan.

Henkel OTC antibacterial wash drug products containing triclosan meet the safety and efficacy requirements applicable to the sale of such products under the Food and Drug Administration's (FDA) Tentative Final Monograph for Health-Care Antiseptic Drug Products (59 FR 31402, June 17, 1994). Furthermore, Henkel stands behind the safety and efficacy of its antibacterial wash products containing triclosan.

Our company has been working with the FDA for many years to support the efficacy and safe use of antibacterial wash products containing this ingredient. We note that the FDA stated in their announcement on April 8, 2010, that the agency "... does not have sufficient safety evidence to recommend changing consumer use of products that contain triclosan at this time". We concur with this position. Antibacterial wash products are important to public health and provide consumers and caregivers of vulnerable populations such as young children, the elderly, and those exposed to situations that increase the risk of exposure or transmission of pathogenic microorganisms with a level of protection that goes beyond washing with plain soap and water.

The FDA was provided with data in 2008 demonstrating that soaps and washes containing triclosan provide significant benefit beyond that from simple soap and water washing. This information consisted of scientific data demonstrating the benefit of antibacterial washes and a report that summarized the findings of an independent expert scientific panel which confirmed the scientific validity of the methods used for determining the effectiveness of topical antibacterial hand products in reducing the risk of infection. While receipt of this information was not acknowledged in the FDA announcement on April 8, 2010, we look forward to the FDA's evaluation of this information.

Henkel will continue to work with the FDA on this matter and respond to further agency requests for information in order to resolve any and all agency questions related to the use of triclosan in antibacterial wash products.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard F. Theiler".

Richard F. Theiler, Ph.D.
Senior Vice President
Research and Development

cc: The Honorable Henry A. Waxman
Chairman

The Honorable Joe Barton
Ranking Member

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Subcommittee on Energy and Environment