



GREEN AMERICA
**CLEAN ELECTRONICS
PRODUCTION NETWORK**
A project of the Center for Sustainability Solutions

CEPN & Towards Zero Exposure Program

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CEPN Overview

CLEAN ELECTRONICS PRODUCTION NETWORK (CEPN)

*A program of Green America
Center for Sustainability Solutions*

CEPN is a global, leadership network of diverse stakeholders collaborating to reduce worker exposure to toxic chemicals in the electronics supply chain - a complex issue that no individual business or organization can solve alone.

9

CEPN WORKING GOAL

Move toward zero exposure of workers to toxic chemicals in the electronics manufacturing process.

SCOPE

CHEMICAL FOCUS

Process chemicals



HAZARD & EXPOSURE FOCUS

reducing both hazard and exposure



DOOR-TO-DOOR FOCUS

includes exposure during usage, handling, and disposal of chemicals



CEPN Participating Organizations

Industry	Apple, Inc. Cisco Systems, Inc. Dell, Inc. Fairphone	HP, Inc. Intel Corporation Inventec Performance Chemicals Responsible Business Alliance Seagate Technology
Labor	CEREAL (El Centro de Reflexión y Acción Laboral) Electronics Watch Int'l Campaign for Responsible Technology (ICRT)	
Research	University of California, Berkeley Santa Clara University Toxics Use Reduction Institute (TURI) - University of Mass, Lowell	
Enviro/ Other	ChemFORWARD Clean Production Action (CPA) Enhesa (Scivera) Sustainable Purchasing Leadership Council (SPLC) TCO Development US EPA	



External Advisors

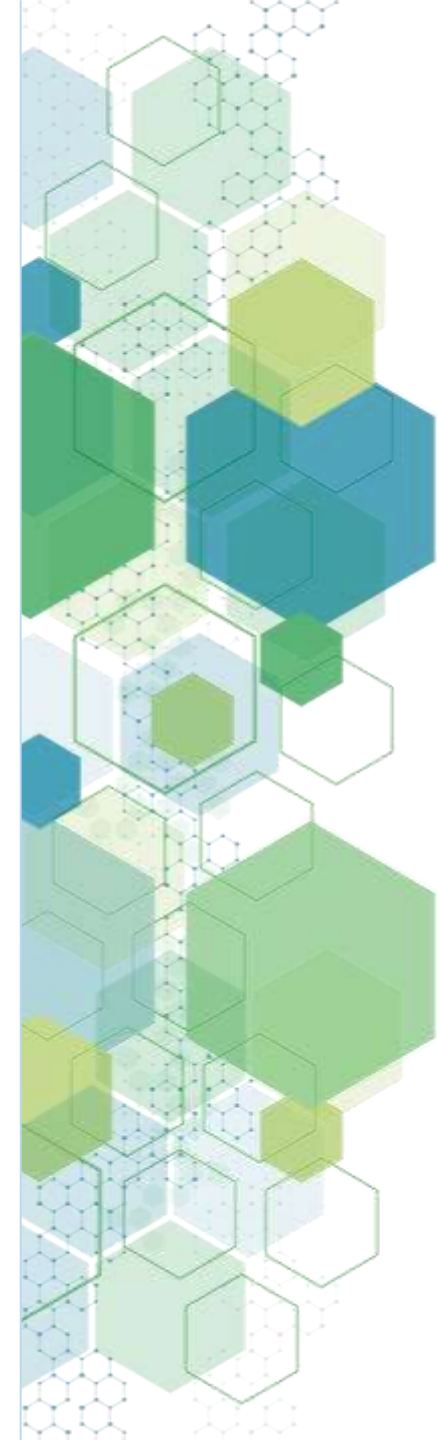
- **NGO Advisors**
 - Worker advocates from around the world
 - Providing insight from the worker perspective
- **Technical Review Board**
 - Safer chemistry experts
 - Providing recommendations on priority chemicals

CEPN's Journey

- [CEPN](#) launched in 2016
- A few brands recognized the importance of working together – and with other stakeholders – to protect workers from hazardous chemicals in the manufacturing process
 - Process chemical management is an industry-wide issue
 - Companies share a supply base with other brands, so collaboration is critical to success
 - Working together network members are able to make a bigger impact and do it faster
- For the first few years, CEPN members focused on developing processes, resources and tools for process chemical management and worker safety
- After a few years, members were seeking how best to integrate and accelerate use of CEPN's tools and resources into the industry → [Toward Zero Exposure \(TZE\) program](#)
- TZE launched in August 2021

How to get involved

- CEPN welcomes individuals and organizations with demonstrated leadership supporting safe and sustainable workplaces across the electronics value chain
- TZE is open to all companies in the electronics industry (membership in CEPN is not required)



Toward Zero Exposure Program

- A commitment program uniting companies throughout the electronics industry in a journey to protect workers from exposure to hazardous chemicals
- Developed by the members and advisors of CEPN; now updated version 2.0
- Designed to expand and reach deeper into the supply chain
- Effect systemic change with a unified vision → cannot be accomplished by any one individual company or organization alone!
- Founding Signatories Apple, Dell, HP, Inc. and Fairphone
- Open to all companies in the electronics supply chain (CEPN membership is not required)

***A safe, healthy
work
environment is
a basic human
right***



Key Tools, Resources and Current Projects

• Process Chemical Data Collection (PCDC) Tool

- Standardized collection and B2B reporting tool for process chemicals data
- Free and publicly available
- The Responsible Business Alliance (RBA) developing an enterprise platform

• CEPN's Priority Chemicals

- 1st Round published in 2019 (9 chemicals) & 2nd Round published in 2023 (16 chemicals)
- Examples of reach and impact:
 - RBA adopted CEPN's 1st round of nine Priority Chemicals in its Industry Focus Process Chemicals (IFPC) Policy
 - Nine of the sixteen chemicals featured in Electronics Watch's Guidance for Public Buyers are CEPN Priority Chemicals
 - Included as a restricted substance list in Healthy Building Network's Pharos database
 - TZE Program - Over 600 facilities in the Signatories' manufacturing supply chains are estimated to have already substituted the 1st Round of Priority Chemicals

• Safer Solvents Project

- Collaboration with ChemFORWARD and other CEPN members
- Seeking to identify potential solvent alternatives to 25 priority chemicals based on **function** (using [Hansen Solubility Parameters](#)) **AND hazard** (using ChemFORWARD's chemical hazard repository)

• Capacity Building Deeper in the Supply Chain

- Grant from the [Initiative for Global Solidarity](#), a program of the [Deutsche Gesellschaft für internationale Zusammenarbeit \(GIZ\) GmbH](#)
- Facilities deep in the supply chain often lack access to productive training and active worker participation in chemical management
- Project aims to address the gap by providing accessible, deployment ready trainings on chemical safety for both workers and supervisors
- Training program will be aligned with TZE, building on existing tools and resources

Collaboration is Key to Progress

Takes more effort and time, but collaborative processes generate more credible and impactful results

Thank You!

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