ACGIH® PUBLIC AFFAIRS and COMMUNICATION POLICY

The American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists (ACGIH®) is a private not-for-profit, nongovernmental organization whose members are industrial hygienists and other occupational health and safety professionals dedicated to promoting health and safety within the workplace. The ACGIH core purpose is “to advance occupational and environmental health.” As a scientific organization, ACGIH has established technical committees that review existing scientific information. ACGIH publishes guidelines known as Threshold Limit Values (TLVs®) and Biological Exposure Indices (BEIs®) for use by industrial hygienists in making decisions regarding safe levels of exposure to various chemical and physical agents found in the workplace. In addition to the TLVs and BEIs, ACGIH develops and publishes professional practice guidelines, and develops and delivers educational events that support development and application of those practice guidelines.

Taking Public Positions

Historically, ACGIH as an organization has not taken formal positions on public or occupational health issues. ACGIH, through its technical committees, does provide scientific and technical expertise, which may be used by organizations or individuals developing consensus standards, occupational health legislation or regulations, and public or occupational health policy. ACGIH’s policy on taking public positions is as follows:

Consensus Standards

As an organization, ACGIH does not send representatives to serve as committee members in the development of consensus standards. ACGIH TLVs and BEIs are guidelines only and are not established using a consensus standards setting process. However, with specific authorization from the ACGIH Board of Directors, ACGIH technical committees may in special and limited cases review and provide technical comments on consensus standards. All such reviews must be coordinated by and routed through the ACGIH Headquarters office. ACGIH members who serve on other consensus standard setting committees or participate in their proceedings should indicate that the opinions being expressed are theirs and do not represent the opinions of ACGIH.

Regulations

ACGIH does not develop occupational health standards or regulations. However, ACGIH is aware that in certain instances the TLVs and the BEIs are used as standards by national, state, or local governments. ACGIH does not believe that TLVs and BEIs should be adopted as standards without an analysis of other factors necessary to make appropriate risk management decisions (e.g., control options, technical and economic factors, etc.). To assist ACGIH members, government regulators, and industry groups in understanding the basis and limitations of the TLVs and BEIs when used in a regulatory context, the ACGIH Board of Directors has adopted a Statement of Position Regarding

This Policy was adopted by the ACGIH® Board of Directors on May 10, 2003
the TLVs® and the BEIs®. This statement, which can be found on the web at
http://www.acgih.org/TLV/PosStmt.htm, has been provided to the federal Occupational
Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), and can be provided to other regulatory
agencies as appropriate.

Where ACGIH has an adopted TLV, BEI, or other practice guideline with supporting
Documentation on an agent or topic that is the subject of rule making, with the approval
of the ACGIH Board of Directors, ACGIH may submit the Documentation along with the
Statement of Position to the rule making authority or process. As appropriate, the
ACGIH Board of Directors may authorize staff or member(s) of a technical committee to
provide technical information to the rulemaking authority or process. ACGIH members
may not represent ACGIH at regulatory hearings or in rule making activities without
written authorization from the ACGIH Board of Directors.

Legislation
ACGIH does not routinely review or comment on proposed legislation and does not
engage in lobbying activities. When appropriate, ACGIH may authorize individuals to
utilize all or portions of ACGIH technical publications. ACGIH members may not
represent ACGIH at legislative processes without written authorization from the Board
of Directors.

Communicating with the Media and/or the Public

The ACGIH Board of Directors designates the Executive Director and the Chair of the ACGIH
Board of Directors as the Public Information Officers (PIOs) for ACGIH. All media or public
requests for information shall be directed to the Executive Director or his/her designee. ACGIH
staff or volunteers should not speak with the media unless they have been specifically
authorized to do so by the Executive Director or the Chair of ACGIH.

Committee Communications

Committee members are not authorized to communicate with stakeholders about TLVs,
BEIs, and other ACGIH guidelines that are under development. All such communication
should come through the ACGIH Science Group.

Committee members are not authorized to speak as representatives of ACGIH about
ACGIH and/or the TLVs, BEIs, and other ACGIH guidelines at scientific meetings,
symposia, etc. without consent from ACGIH. If a Committee member wishes to speak at
such an event, the Committee member should inform his or her Committee Chair and the
ACGIH Staff Liaison to the Committee. The Chair or Staff Liaison will bring the matter to
the Executive Director and/or Chair of ACGIH for authorization. Committee members,
acting in an individual capacity, are free to share their personal and professional opinions
about ACGIH, TLVs or the TLV process. When doing so they should indicate that the
opinions being expressed are theirs and do not necessarily represent the opinions of
ACGIH.

All correspondence and exchange of information between ACGIH and other entities must be
coordinated through the ACGIH Headquarters office.