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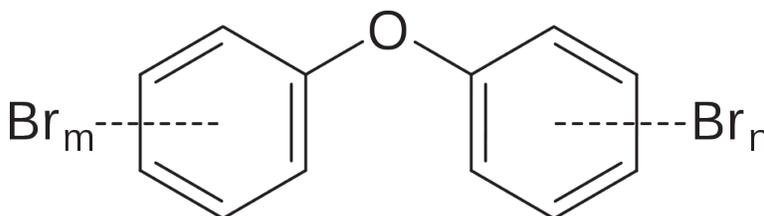
Study Highlights Dangers of Polybrominated Diphenyl Ethers (PBDEs)

Fredericton, May 13, 2013 - Results of a collaborative study conducted by US and Canadian scientists on the impacts of polybrominated diphenyl ethers (PBDEs) was recently presented at the annual meeting of the Pediatric Academic Societies in Washington. The study showed that children exposed to PBDEs prenatally are at risk of developmental problems.

While some PBDEs have already been banned, they persist in our environment as they have been used in furniture and electronics for their flame retardant properties. Two of the three common mixtures of these chemicals have been banned in Canada. The chemicals are of concern as they leach out over time, persist in the environment, and bio-accumulate in fatty tissue. The main exposure routes are the ingestion of dust and consumption of fatty foods.

To read more about the study, and learn of ways to reduce exposure to PBDEs, view the article [Flame retardants harmful to babies while in the womb: study - The Globe and Mail, May 6, 2013](#).

RPC is accredited by the Standards Council of Canada for analysis for PBDEs. To learn more about the service, see: <http://www.rpc.ca/english/info/DioxinsPCBFlameRetardantsNDMA.pdf>



About RPC

RPC is New Brunswick's provincial research organization (PRO), an independent contract research and development and technical services organization located in Fredericton, NB. RPC's complement of 98 scientists, engineers and technologists are supported by a 13,000 sq. meter facility housing world-class analytical chemistry and material-testing laboratories, comprehensive life science capabilities, an internationally recognized fish health lab, extensive prototype design, manufacturing and testing services, and a wide variety of pilot facilities for the development and improvement of industrial and environmental processes and products.

RPC is accredited by various organizations including the Standards Council of Canada (SCC) and is ISO 9001:2008 certified. Further information about RPC's services is available from <http://www.rpc.ca>.

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