



Progress report

Alin Ionas (ESR 1)

Supervisor: Adrian Covaci





Introduction

 Project title: Migration pathways to the environment – "horizon scanning" for FRs present in consumer goods and construction materials

Work package 1: Migration pathways



Progress to date

- Initial theoretical training: "The basics of GC-MS" course
- Initial lab training: screening polymeric foam / mineral wool samples for FRs
- Techniques used:
 - GC-EI/MS (Agilent 6890 GC coupled with an Agilent 5973 MSD)
 - GC-ECNI/MS (Agilent 6890 GC coupled with an Agilent 5973 MSD)



Progress to date

 Found no BFRs (PBDEs, HBCD, TBBPA, etc) in any analysed sample

 Found TCPP in a thermal insulation foam sample

Found some antioxidants toxic for aquatic organisms:
Deenox and Irganox in another thermal insulation foam sample



Next 6 months

- Analyse materials known to contain flame retardant compounds produced in the last couple of years, including foam samples
- Look into handheld XRF screening for Br in materials
- Analyse dust samples collected from electronics stores and screen for FRs



Techniques to be used

- GC-EI/MS
- GC-ECNI/MS
- Handheld XRF
- LC-IT/MS
- LC-QTOF/MS
- If required, GCxGC-MS (during secondment at VU)



Plans for the project as a whole (1)

- Screen for new FRs in:
 - Construction materials: insulating foams/mineral wool, wallpapers, chemically treated wood
 - > Consumer goods:
 - electronics (in-use -> horizon scanning)/e-waste
 - furniture, carpets, curtains and clothes (newly produced preferably)
 - plastic/polymeric products (hard plastics, PUF, HIPS, XPS, ABS)



Plans for the project as a whole (2)

- Optimise a screening procedure for BFRs using a handheld XRF
- Develop analytical methods for the detection and quantitation of new/emerging FRs
- Secondment at VU: estimate leaching of FRs present in hard plastic toys as a result of "mouthing" by infants and toddlers



Thank you for your attention