

2024 Methylene Chloride Regulation under the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA)

This rule bans most uses of methylene chloride by specific dates. The first prohibition starts on February 3, 2025, banning the distribution of any methylene chloride containing products to retailers. This is followed on May 5, 2025, by a prohibition of the sale to consumers of any methylene chloride (MeCl₂) containing products.

Note that methylene chloride containing products contain 0.1% MeCl₂ or greater. Products that include methylene chloride below 0.1% by weight are not subject to the restrictions in this regulation. MeCl₂ (CAS #75-09-2) is also called Freon 30, dichloromethane, and other names. Review your SDS for any chemicals with CAS #75-09-2.

On April 28, 2026, most industrial uses of methylene chloride are prohibited, including, but not limited to:

- aerosol and vapor degreasing
- paint, coating, adhesive, and caulk removers (except for items of artistic, historic, or cultural significance)
- cold cleaning or degreasing
- use in lubricants, greases, and paints
- use as a propellant and blowing agent
- the upstream manufacture, processing, and distribution in commerce of methylene chloride for those prohibited uses

On May 8, 2029, the use of methylene chloride is prohibited for:

- removing coatings from wooden furniture and other items that are of artistic, historic, or cultural significance
- use of methylene chloride for certain space, aircraft and turbine applications

The use of MeCl₂ may be allowed if an appropriate Workplace Chemical Protection Program (WCPP) and recordkeeping is in place by May 5, 2025. More details on a WCPP and other aspects of the rule can be found on the more detailed EPA compliance guide at https://www.epa.gov/system/files/documents/2024-07/mecl-compliance-guide.pdf

The allowable uses of methylene chloride include:

- incorporation into formulation, mixture, or reaction product for an allowable use
- as a reactant
- repackaging for an allowable use
- recycling
- industrial and commercial use as a paint and coating remover from safety critical, corrosion sensitive components of aircraft and spacecraft
- as a processing aid

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- as a laboratory chemical
- for plastic and rubber products manufacturing
- use as a bonding agent for solvent welding
- disposal

If you currently use methylene chloride or methylene chloride containing products, you need to determine if your use will be prohibited and if prohibited, plan on how you will proceed without the use of methylene chloride or methylene chloride containing products. You may contact NYSP2I for possible assistance at SBEAP@rit.edu.

See PART 751—REGULATION OF CERTAIN CHEMICAL SUBSTANCES AND MIXTURES UNDER SECTION 6 OF THE TOXIC SUBSTANCES CONTROL ACT Subpart B—Methylene Chloride

https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-40/chapter-I/subchapter-R/part-751/subpart-B

Or

A GUIDE TO COMPLYING WITH THE 2024 METHYLENE CHLORIDE REGULATION UNDER THE TOXIC SUBSTANCES CONTROL ACT (TSCA) (RIN 2070-AK70), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Document Number: 740S24001, JULY 2024

https://www.epa.gov/system/files/documents/2024-07/mecl-compliance-guide.pdf

Contact the SBEAP for free, confidential technical assistance.