



## Toxic Additives

Analysing Product Portfolio Risk

### Recommended Questions

#### Q.1 "Do you publicly disclose the chemicals included in your products?"

**Background:** In our analysis, 45% of the products could not be mapped to any specific chemical. These chemicals represent a black box of potential toxicity risk.

**Target:** Companies market products with clear chemical identifier information. This can exclude quantities or processing done to protect commercial confidentiality.

#### Q.2 "Do you have hazard data for the chemicals you market and make it publicly available?"

**Background:** In our analysis, 11% of the additives sampled had identified chemical components, but could not be mapped to publicly available hazard data. Customers and investors cannot know what impacts these chemicals could have.

**Target:** Companies release safety data on their products if they have it. For untested chemicals, they run or fund a chemical hazard assessment and commit to releasing the findings.

#### Q.3 "How are you moving your product portfolio towards safer chemistry?"

**Background:** Transitioning to safer chemistry can help reduce potential future financial risk for chemical companies, corporates using their products and their investors. Reducing this potential risk should be seen as the offset to the investment needed to make the transition.

**Target:** Corporates switch to safer available alternatives or invest in innovation to develop alternatives where they are not available or not competitive currently.

### Report's Key Takeaways

- Research into the harmful effects of plastics has risen dramatically in recent years. The growing focus on the health and environmental impacts of plastics is a ticking timebomb for corporates using plastics and their investors.
- A challenge for investors is understanding how different corporates are exposed to this potential risk. Determining what each corporate makes can be challenging and then, when this data is available, it must be triangulated against known toxicity/hazard data.
- In this report, we examined plastic additives and found that for 45% of the products analysed we could not determine their chemicals components. For a further 11% of products, we could determine the components, but there is currently no data on their potential harms.

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