

FUMIGATION FAX

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Critical Use Exemptions

Under the U.S. Clean Air Act, the amount of methyl bromide produced and imported in the United States is being reduced incrementally until the phase-out date of January 1, 2005. In 2001, the amount produced and imported was reduced to 50% of historical baseline levels, in 2003 it will be reduced to 30% of that baseline, and in 2005 the phase-out will be completed.

Both the Montreal Protocol and the U. S. have recognized that viable alternatives may not be available for all uses of methyl bromide by the phase-out date. Under the Montreal Protocol and the U. S. Clean Air Act, **Critical Use Exemptions (CUE)** will be available for uses where,

- ? Lack of methyl bromide for a specific use would result in a "significant market disruption",
- ? No technically and economically feasible alternatives have been identified, and
- ? Efforts are underway to evaluate, commercialize and register alternatives.

In a recent Federal Register notice (67 FR 31798, May 10, 2002), the U. S. EPA announced the application process for Critical Use Exemptions. Even though CUE will not be available until phase-out (Jan. 1, 2005), application is a two-year process, and applications **must be submitted to EPA by September 9, 2002**. Details on the application for CUE are available at the EPA website (www.epa.gov/ozone/mbr), or from Great Lakes. Also, EPA is planning a series of workshops to provide additional details on completion of the applications. Information on the workshops is available from Lelia Kaplus at lkaplus@icfconsulting.com or by calling (202) 862-1586.

Please read the information carefully to determine whether you should apply for a Critical Use Exemption for your use of methyl bromide. Because of the complexity of the application process, many users are planning to submit joint applications through industry associations.

Great Lakes is planning several initiatives to assist users and user groups in completing and submitting applications for Critical Use Exemptions. If you have questions or would like additional information, please contact us at 1-800-378-9451.

ALWAYS READ AND FOLLOW LABEL DIRECTIONS



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