

Media Release

For immediate Release

Chemtura Focuses on Community Following Incident

October 1, 2010, Elmira – Chemtura Canada Co./Cie has established a hotline, is visiting residents and launching property restoration services today in an effort to remedy results of a chemical release earlier this week.

"We are receiving and responding to numerous calls," says Dimitri Makres, vice president of Chemtura Canada and director of manufacturing in Elmira. Although the investigation into what caused the release of BLE25® on September 27th is ongoing, Makres recognizes the impact on near neighbours and is making them the priority.

Winmar has been contracted by Chemtura to provide clean up and restoration services to resident properties impacted by the release. Residents nearby have reported tiny dark brown spots of BLE25 on various parts of their property such as vehicles, buildings and lawns. To help assess individual restoration needs, Conestoga-Rovers & Associates and Winmar will start visiting schools and resident's homes today and over the weekend on Chemtura's behalf. Until now Chemtura staff have been responding to calls and will continue to participate in the community outreach process.

The release took place when the heating of a vessel used to manufacture BLE25 created too much pressure within the vessel. When pressure increased a built in relief device released the material within the vessel. Some of this material escaped the facility through a vent and was carried out into the nearby neighbourhood. All potential causes, including operating conditions, operational procedural deficiency and operational error are being evaluated. Employees took to the streets immediately following the incident to explain the situation to as many neighbours as they could. The need for more information and a broader reach led the local fire department to activate the Community Alert Network (CAN system) that evening.

Chemtura recommends avoiding direct skin contact with BLE25, identifiable as dark brown sticky spots, however, given the amount released, the nature of the release, and the resulting low probability of significant exposure to this chemical, we believe this chemical release is unlikely to cause a health risk of either short term or long term harm.

"We apologize for the inconvenience this incident has caused. Our goal is to quickly address any health concerns, impacts of this chemical on homeowner's properties and reimburse costs for property damage," says Makres, who will be part of a team delivering information packages to residents today.

Chemtura is working with all regulatory authorities including Woolwich Township on this issue. For all inquires or to request an assessment or car cleaning call the Chemtura BLE25 Hotline at: 519-669-1671 x313.

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For more information contact:
Chemtura Canada Co./Cie Media Relations
669-1671 x313



Community Update

Re: BLE25 incident

Frequently Asked Questions

1. **Q. What actually happened on September 27th at Chemtura?**
A. Heating of a vessel used to manufacture BLE25[®] created too much pressure within that vessel. When the pressure increased beyond a specified limit, a built-in pressure relief device released the material to reduce pressure within the vessel. Some of the material within the vessel escaped our facility through a vent. Our investigation as to exactly why this happened is in progress, and all potential causes, including operating conditions, operational procedural deficiency, and operational error are being evaluated.

2. **Q. What is BLE25?**
A. BLE25 is a high temperature reaction product of diphenylamine and acetone, and is used as an antioxidant in rubber and plastic products. The material released also contains up to 30% of diphenylamine and residual acetone.

3. **Q. What are the health risks if any?**
A. Given the amount released, the nature of the release, and the resulting low probability of significant exposure of this chemical, we believe this chemical release is unlikely to cause a significant risk of either a short term (acute) or long term (chronic) harm. However, if you believe that you were exposed and have experienced symptoms such as respiratory irritation (coughing or sore throat), skin irritation (rashes or skin blotching), or eye irritation, please contact your physician. If you or your physician have any questions or require any information, please contact us so we can be sure that both you and your physician have all such information.

4. **Q. What chemicals were released? How much was released?**
A. We estimate that a total of approximately 4,200 kg of BLE25 was released. While our investigation as to exactly how much of that material left our facility boundary is in progress, our preliminary investigation indicates that the vast majority of the chemical released did not leave our facility boundary.

5. **Q. What corrective actions have been taken so far?**
 - A. The BLE25 production process is currently shut down and will not be restarted until we can do so with confidence that a repeat incident will not happen again. We are working cooperatively with the authorities to address this entire situation, and we have retained various contactors and consultants so that we can expeditiously address impacts to the community, as described further below.

6. **Q. What does BLE25 look like?**
 - A. If you have any BLE25 on your property it will now be in a solid form. It will resemble sticky tar-like dark brown spots.

7. **Q. I see the BLE25 on my car. Will it come off without damaging my car?**
 - A. We have retained professional auto cleaning services to address impacts to cars. These services will evaluate how to remove the spots without damaging the car surface. If any residual damage does occur, we will address this with you directly. The contact information is included in the attached letter.

8. **Q. I see the BLE25 on my home and property. Will it come off without damaging my home and property?**
 - A. We have retained professional restoration services to address impacts to homes and property. These services are evaluating how to remove the spots without damaging home surfaces (siding, paint, roof, etc.), and how to best address any impacts to pools, lawns, trees and shrubs, etc. We also have retained a local consulting firm (Conestoga Rovers Associates, or CRA) to survey nearby properties so that we can identify impacts caused by this incident. When a CRA representative shows up at your property, they will have identification and ask your permission to survey your home exterior and property. If you object to having CRA survey your home exterior and property or if there are specific times that are more convenient for you, please let CRA know, or let us know by calling the hotline below. CRA will not survey your home exterior or property without your permission. After we survey your home exterior and property, we will contact you directly to arrange for the spotting to be addressed. If you do not hear from us within a reasonable time, please contact us at the hotline number below. If damage to your home exterior or property does occur, we will address those damages with you directly.

If you have already taken steps to remove the spots, and have incurred costs, please contact us at the hotline number below, and we will work with you regarding reimbursement.

9. **Q. If I breathed in the material that was released, am I at risk?**
A. Given the amount released, the nature of the release, and the resulting low probability of significant exposure to this chemical, we believe that this chemical release is unlikely to cause a significant risk of either a short term (acute) or long term (chronic) harm.
10. **Q. I walked through the grass in my yard in bare feet, am I at risk?**
A. Until the chemical is removed, we recommend that direct skin contact be avoided. However, given the amount released, the nature of the release, and the resulting low probability of significant exposure to this chemical, we believe that this chemical release is unlikely to cause a significant risk of either a short term (acute) or long term (chronic) harm.
11. **Q. My children played in the yard. Are they at risk?**
A. Until the chemical is removed, we recommend that direct skin contact be avoided. However, given the amount released, the nature of the release, and the resulting low probability of significant exposure to this chemical, we believe that this chemical release is unlikely to cause a significant risk of either a short term (acute) or long term (chronic) harm, including children.
12. **Q. I have very young children or aged parents in a compromised health condition at home. What should I do? Are they at risk?**
A. Until the chemical is removed, we recommend that direct skin contact be avoided. However, given the amount released, the nature of the release, and the resultant low probability of significant exposure to this chemical, we believe that this chemical release is unlikely to cause a significant risk of either a short term (acute) or long term (chronic) harm. If you believe that you, your children, or others at your home or visiting your home were exposed and have experienced acute symptoms such as respiratory irritation (coughing or sore throat), skin irritation (rashes or skin blotching), or eye irritation, please contact your physician. If you or your physician have any questions or require any information, please contact us so we can be sure that both you and your physician have all such information.
13. **Q. I have a swing set in my yard, and it has dark brown dots. What should I do? Can my kids play on the swing set?**
A. Until the chemical is removed, we recommend that direct contact be avoided because the chemical may rub off on your children's hands and clothes. As a result, we recommend that you not let your children play on the swing set until the chemical is removed. Clothing that has come into contact with BLE25 should be put in a plastic bag so that they can be assessed by the restoration services company.

14. **Q. I grow fruits or vegetables in my garden. Can I eat them? What should I do?**
- A. The Waterloo Public Health Department does not recommend eating any home grown fruits or vegetables that have evidence of contact with BLE25. Please let the CRA representative who visits your home know that your home grown fruits or vegetables have been impacted by the chemical release, and we will work with you to remedy the damage.
15. **Q. I have pets that are exposed to grass or other surfaces that have been impacted by BLE25. What should I do?**
- A. Until the chemical is removed, we recommend that you wash your pet's paws off before letting them into your house. Given the amount released and the low hazard of the chemical, we believe that it is very unlikely to cause a significant risk of harm to your pet. However, if you have any concerns, please contact your veterinarian. If you or your veterinarian have any questions or require any information, please contact us so we can be sure that both you and your physician have all such information.
16. **Q. What will Chemtura do to "make things right"?**
- A. We apologize for the inconvenience that this incident has caused. Our goal is to quickly address impacts of this chemical to your property, to address any health concerns that you may have, and to reimburse you for costs or damages that you have or may incur. We have retained consultants and services to help us do this. We are working cooperatively with all regulatory authorities, and we want to be fully responsive to you. Please call us to address any concerns that you may have or if you feel that we are not being responsive to you, and we will work hard to promptly and fully address your concerns.

Chemtura BLE25 Hotline: 519-669-1671 x313

*For questions regarding health concerns feel free to contact Waterloo Region Public Health at 519-883-2008 Ext. 5147 between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Monday to Friday.



We wish to inform the community of our plans to address the release of one of our products (BLE) on Monday, September 27. We have been working with representatives from the Township of Woolwich, Chemtura's Public Advisory Committee (CPAC) and the Ministry of Environment (MOE) to ensure that the clean up of affected vehicles, homes and other property is done in a manner that is satisfactory to the owner and that is of minimal inconvenience.

In this regard we have taken and will take the following steps:

1. Cleaning of Vehicles:

Arrangements have been made to have vehicles cleaned at the businesses identified below, with all costs for the cleaning being billed directly to Chemtura. In order to facilitate this process we ask that you call the hotline number below to leave your name, address, phone number and licence plate number of the vehicle(s) that require cleaning. You will then be able to contact either company to arrange the cleaning. Should you wish to use any other service please contact the hotline number to obtain information on how reimbursement will be managed.

Rudow's CARSTAR Collision Centre
33 First Street
519-669-3373

Savage Autobody Inc.
101 Bonnie Crescent
519-669-8330

2. Cleaning of homes and other property:

We have contracted the services of a property restoration services company to assist in the cleaning of affected homes and other property. We are currently working out the details of when and how restoration will be undertaken and will provide additional details in the next couple of days. At this time there is no need to contact the hotline number unless you prefer to use the services of another company.

While BLE will stick to hard surfaces, we believe that the amount of BLE present in the community should not present a health risk. If you have any concerns regarding the release of this material, please contact the hotline number.

Chemtura BLE25 Hotline Number: 519-669-1671 x313