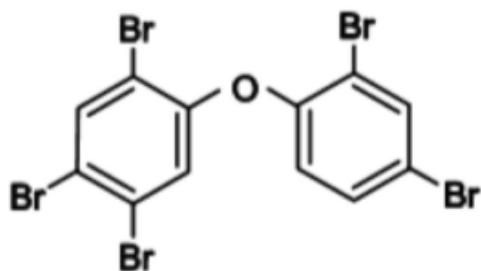
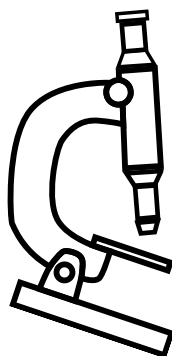


POLYBROMINATED DIPHENYL ETHERS

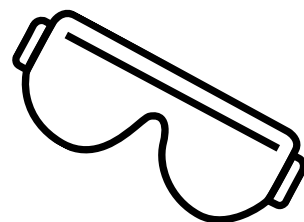


PENTABROMODIPHENYL ETHER



They have been used as flame retardants in the following sectors:

- Electrical and electronics industries
- Transport industry
- Furniture industry
- Textile and carpet industries
- Construction industry
- Recycling industry



Polybrominated diphenyl ethers (PBDEs) are persistent organic pollutants (POPs) and are characterized by the following properties:

- Toxicity
- Long-term persistence in the environment
- Ability to travel over long distances
- Bioaccumulation in aquatic and terrestrial organisms
- Biomagnification at higher levels of the food chain

The impact of polybrominated diphenyl ethers on human health

- Polybrominated diphenyl ethers (PBDEs) can bioaccumulate, are slowly eliminated from the body, and do not readily break down either in the body or in the environment.
- PBDEs enter the bodies of humans and animals through food, water, or inhalation. They accumulate in fatty tissues and can be transferred into breast milk.
- These substances can disrupt the endocrine system, particularly thyroid function. Chronic exposure to low doses of PBDEs can also affect the liver, while exposure to high doses can cause nervous and immune system disorders.
- These substances can cross the placenta and reach the developing fetus. Children exposed in this way may experience impaired physical and cognitive development.



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This informational material was developed by the Armenian Women for Health and a Healthy Environment (AWHHE) NGO within the framework of GEF ID 10924, "Enabling Activities for the Review and Update of the National Implementation Plan under the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants in Albania, Armenia, and Kazakhstan."

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