**NSC Technical Subcommittee Call Minutes – February 18, 2020**

**Participation [by regions]:**

1: Sara Johnson – **NH**

2: Harry Ching – **NY**

3: Jeremy Hancher & Lee Ann Briggs **– PA**

4: Donovan Grimwood – **TN**; Tony Pendola – **NC**; Derek Bozzell **KY** and Trayce Moore-Thomas - **MS**

5: Lisa Ashenbrenner-Hunt & Jennifer Feyerherm – **WI**; Jenifer Dixon – **MI**; Mike Nelson & Emily Ohde - **MN** and Mark Stoddard - **IN**

6: Lloyd Kirk – **OK**

7: Leena Divakar & Nancy Larson – **KS** and Christine Paulson & Jennifer Wittenburg - **IA**

9: Jennifer Lipkin – **NV**

10: Patrick Hoermann - **WA**

**Other (?):** Luke Hershey, K Martin, Crohrbac, JC, Kajiya-Millsk, R Peltier & Texas Strobel

**January minutes:** approved as is

**Tech-Subcommittee:** <https://nationalsbeap.org/sbeap/resources/subcommittees/technical>

***This presentation was recorded from this presentation will be posted to the SBEAP Technical Subcommittee web page***

**Alternative Solvent Trends and Misconceptions**

**State of the Industry**

Jon Meijer, Director of Membership, Drycleaning & Laundry Institute (DLI)

1) **Solvents used in Drycleaning**

Jon Meijer will share his knowledge and experience regarding solvents predominantly used by the drycleaning industry today and the approximate percentage use of each type.

**n-Propyl Bromide (n-PB, DrySolv) –**

Is n-PB a solvent used in drycleaning?

Was it ever used as a replacement for perc in drycleaning?

Are there any n-propyl bromide plants in use today?

**Green Earth and Solvon K4**

**Sensene** – alternative alkopropanol

2) **Perc use and co-located facilities**

What is the effect on drycleaners in co-located facilities?

How many cleaners are affected by the rule?

3) **State of the industry**

The market for drycleaning continues to shrink and the consolidation of drycleaning plants will continue. The increasing reliance by consumers on “**fast fashion**” or “**disposable garments**” is now the norm and has contributed to the overall reduction in drycleaning. The demand for wetcleaning continues to increase. It is an upward trend that is likely to continue.

**Some take aways:**

**Drycleaning service industry is shrinking & consolidating; sons & daughters of drycleaning business owners/operators not as likely to stay in this business**

**Professional cleaners – drycleaning is but one part of it**

**Purchases of Perchloroethylene (Perc) continue to diminish; may impact states that collect a tax/fee for remediation activities**

**Perc co-located facilities**

New York City

Chicago – maybe

Older building with a spare room

**Alternative solvents**

**Rynex –** no longer available

**Solvair/Carbon Dioxide –** not viable; perhaps one or two remaining operations

**n-Propyl Bromide or n-PB or DrySolv –** not viable; highly corrosive; not supported with regards to use as a drycleaner (equipment & chemical suppliers); popular with Korean Drycleaners located in New Jersey perhaps 10 years ago

**Solvon K4 and Green Earth –** popular in C**anada**

**Sensene –** relatively new product; limited use in US; greater usage in the EU

**Petroleum, e.g., DF 2000** which can be heated to increase cleaning activity; most prominent in US

**Wet cleaning – not limited to water & detergent**

Potential shrinkage – knowledge/experience with use of tensioning equipment

Fibers/fabrics – knowledge/experience with how they react to water

Requires more physical space

Apt to be used alongside a drycleaning machine employing an alternative solvent

US EPA DfE, when it existed, encouraged wet cleaning in combination with equipment, solvents and techniques (e.g., tensioning)

**Newer drycleaning machines –** can accommodate more than one type of solvent

**Machine –** purchase a type based on proximity of services that can maintain it

**Constraints on purchasing new equipment**

Drycleaners are typically very small businesses with a few exceptions (consolidation)

Price range, approximate - $ 50,000 to 80,000

Licensing fees

Mandatory use of proprietary detergents

**Textiles – more likely to be imported from Asia; cheaper fabrics with a life span much less than fabrics used in previous generations; throwaway society; fast fashion**

**Bio:**

Jon Meijer is the Director of Membership of **DLI** located in Laurel, Maryland.

After starting with **DLI** (formally **IFI**) in 1982, He has gone on to become a popular industry speaker and has written numerous articles and bulletins for **DLI’s** Fabricare magazine.

In 1994, he won a national award from the America Society of Association Executives (**ASAE**) in the “Best Overall Federal Regulatory Program” category for his work with Environment-Canada.

He continues to represent the industry all over the United States and Canada, working with government agencies such as the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, the Environmental Protection Agency and Environment Canada.

Jon Meijer has a bachelor’s degree in business administration from the University of Maryland and is an active member of **ASAE** and the Cleaning Laundry Association Executives.

**Future topics:**

* **March 17:** TBD
* **April 21:** Aqueous based cleaning, Steve Preece, Madison Chemicals
* **May:** SBEAP Annual Training

**Next Call: March 17, 2020**

1 pm CST (2 pm EST) (3rd Tuesday of month)