
Sample Timecoded Transcript

Nancy: 1:00:12 Not to be the bearer of bad news, but dust is full of chemicals. Clean Production Action, a nonprofit group that promotes the development of sustainable products, tested the vacuum dust in 70 homes across the country and found toxic chemicals in every sample. The list included not only PBDES, but also phthalates,

1:00:42 such as plasticizers in vinyl, hair sprays, and nail polishes; organotins, an additive in vinyl; alkylphenols, found in paint and cleaners, perfluorinated surfactants which were found in floor polishes, herbicides; and, of course, insecticides.

Tom: 1:01:02 These substances may cause allergies and asthma, harm your cardiovascular, nervous, and reproductive systems; and lead to breast, colorectal, lung, and prostate cancers, according to university studies. So how did they get into your house?

Nancy: 1:01:15 Experts believe these chemicals are in every home with consumer products. Computers, shower curtains, and wallpaper emit chemicals that settle into dust, which we breathe, eat, and absorb through our skin.

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- Woman: 1:01:18 Manufacturer's didn't expect these chemicals to leach out of their products, but it's happening. They off-gas the most when they're brand new, but continue to do so at lower levels throughout their life. What we don't know yet is the level at which this exposure becomes a poison.
- Nancy: 1:02:10 To be safe, lower your home's chemical burden by keeping it well ventilated, like opening windows, using a HEPA vacuum, and avoiding products made from flame retardants and vinyl.
- Tom: 1:02:15 Go to saferproducts.org for a list of manufacturers that are phasing out these chemicals.

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