

Chemical Substance Guidelines

Sekisui House aims to minimize the risk of using hazardous chemicals by applying EVABAT (economically viable application of the best available technology) throughout the life cycle of a house.

In 2007, we created our own Chemical Substance Guidelines, which employ a risk management perspective. We also reviewed and revised the guidelines in accordance with laws and regulations and new information regarding the use of chemical substances. At the same time, we comply with laws and regulations and promote appropriate responses to chemical substances based on guidelines established by the national government, local governments, industry associations, and others.

Chemical Substance Guidelines (adopted in 2007; excerpt)

Sekisui House seeks to minimize the risk of using hazardous chemical substances by applying EVABAT (economically viable application of the best available technology) in the order shown below.

Level 1. Prohibited substances

Asbestos and ozone-depleting substances are prohibited (Prohibition of Use) as Class 1 Specified Chemical Substances under the Act on the Evaluation of Chemical Substances and Regulation of Their Manufacture, etc. (Chemical Substances Control Law).

Level 2. Substances subject to priority action

These are substances for which the housing industry

needs to take the initiative, such as substances presumed to be the cause of sick building syndrome. Chemical substances are identified from the perspective of risk management and the amounts used are determined. Active measures are then taken, such as reducing the amount used, substituting alternative substances, and establishing a management system.

- Chemical substances that the human body is highly likely to be exposed to in daily life
- Chemical substances that are subject to active management because workers are at risk of health damage if protective measures are not applied during construction
- Chemical substances that are highly likely to contaminate the natural environment if the products (buildings) are improperly dealt with during disposal (such as during demolition)

Level 3. Monitored substances

These are chemical substances other than those indicated in Levels 1 and 2 that are subject to comprehensive examination under laws and guidelines and that may cause problems in the future. A determination is made as to whether these are being used intentionally as appropriate.

Prevention of contamination by hazardous chemicals

Specific targets for exposure risk of chemical substances harmful to human health	Employees (including subcontractors)	Residents	Local environment	Global environment	Segment	Basic methods of management
Exposure during production	◎		○	○	Factory production	Optimal chemical management (daily management, emergency response)
	◎		○	○	Supplier	Recommendation of reduction efforts to determine the quantity of hazardous substances transferred and amount consumed
Exposure during construction	◎				Construction	Optimal chemical management (prevention of worker exposure)
Exposure in the natural environment (soil)		◎	○		Land development	Risk avoidance (assessment of contaminated land and purchase of uncontaminated land) or reduction (exposure prevention)
Residential exposure		◎			Products and services	Reduced customer exposure
Exposure from construction waste	○		◎	○		Waste management
Exposure during product disposal			◎	○		Maintaining manufacturer responsibility