

What are Plasticizers, Flame Retardants, PFC's and Antimicrobial Biocides?

Phthalate Plasticizers: Plasticizers are a substance added to certain plastics to make them soft and flexible for applications like vinyl (PVC) upholstery. Phthalate plasticizers are a specific type of plasticizer. According to the National Cancer Institute they have been linked to adverse reproductive effects in males and are suspected endocrine disrupter's. LDI upholstery is soft and flexible without the use of phthalate plasticizers.

Flame Retardants: Flame retardants are added to products to reduce the spread of fire. According to the National Institutes of Health some of these flame retardants have been linked to causing cancer and adversely impacting fetal and child brain development. LDI upholstery meets standard flame codes for commercial interiors and is offered with no flame retardants.

Perfluorochemicals (PFC's): PFC's are used as stain resistant finishes on many fabrics. According to the EPA, PFC's have been linked to causing cancer and disruption of hormones. LDI upholstery has excellent stain resistance but contains no PFC's.

Antimicrobial Chemicals: Antimicrobial chemicals have been added to products with the intention of reducing the risk of healthcare associated infections (HAI's). However, the CDC has not found any evidence to suggest antimicrobials offer any enhanced protection from the spread of bacteria and germs. In fact, their presence may do harm by leading to the formation of resistant strains of bacteria. Proper cleaning and disinfection of surfaces is a better component of a larger HAI mitigation protocol. LDI upholstery attracts fewer microbes than woven textiles, can be sanitized, and comes with no antimicrobial additives.