

The Swedish Chemicals Agency KemI

The driving force in efforts to attain
a non-toxic environment

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Our presentation this morning

- Introduction Swedish Chemicals Agency – Kemi (Stina)
- Introduction to the topic – chemicals in products (Stina)
- The SAICM work on information on chemicals in products (CiP project) (Anna)
- Examples of EU legislation, in particular Reach (Eva)
- Working with industry – proactive approach (Stina)

Kemi

- Supervisory authority under the Ministry of the Environment and Energy
- Works in Sweden, within the EU and in international activities to limit risks to human health and the environment from the use of chemicals
- Founded in 1986
- Located in Sundbyberg. Staff: about 270



KemI reduces chemical risks in Sweden

- ✓ Responsible for placing on the market of chemicals and products (articles) containing chemicals
- ✓ Assist in the development of legislation and other instruments. Nationally, in the EU and international
- ✓ Inspections and guidance
- ✓ Managing applications for approval of pesticides and biocides
- ✓ Statistics and flow analyses



International work

International chemicals conventions and agreements

- SAICM (Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management)
- Stockholm Convention (on POPs)
- Rotterdam Convention (on PIC)
- Minamata Convention (on mercury)



OECD

Bilateral, regional and global cooperation

- International Training Program Chemicals Management
- Bilateral and regional programs
- Collaboration with UNEP



A non-toxic environment



The environment must be free from man-made or extracted compounds and metals that represent a threat to human health or biological diversity.

One of sixteen environmental quality objectives

The overall goal is that, one generation from now, the major environmental problems currently facing us will have been solved. Without increasing environmental and health problems outside Sweden's borders.

The new Sustainable Development Goals

17 specific goals with 169 associated targets

<https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/topics>

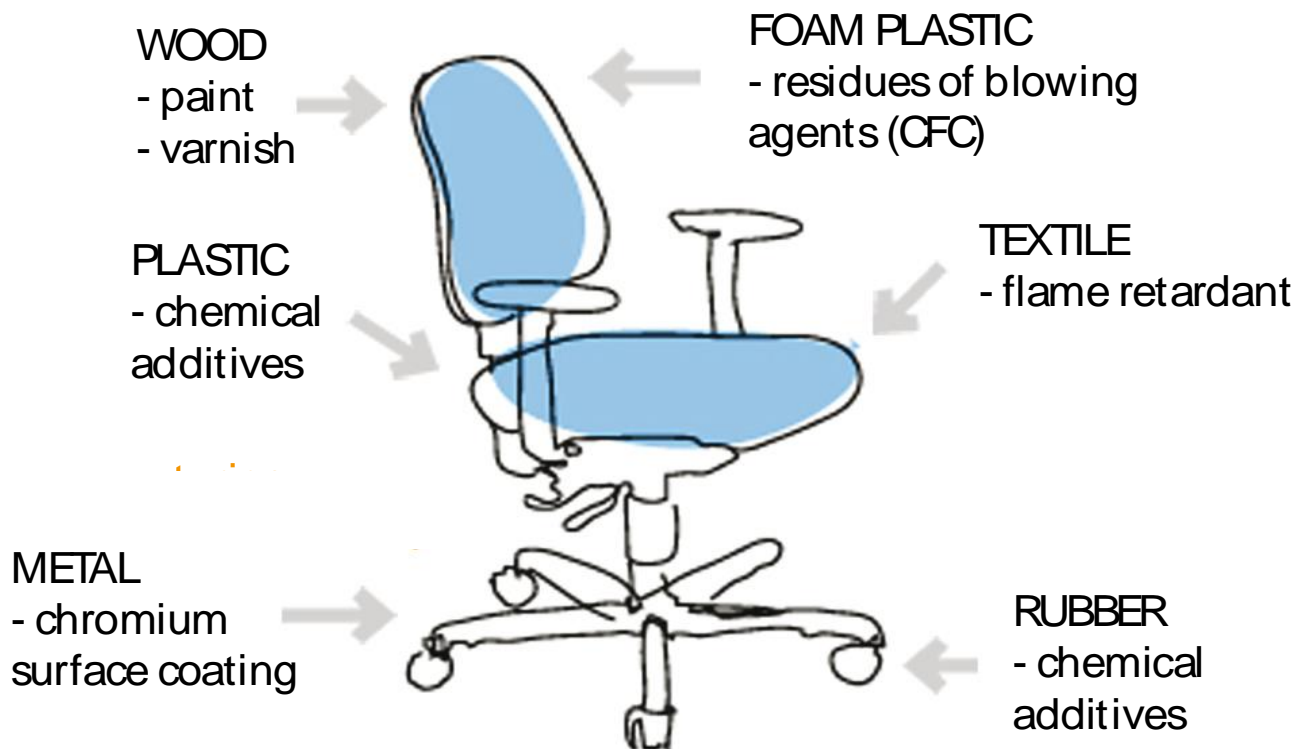


Chemicals in products

- We are surrounded by products and chemicals



Examples of chemicals in a product



The World production of chemicals increases

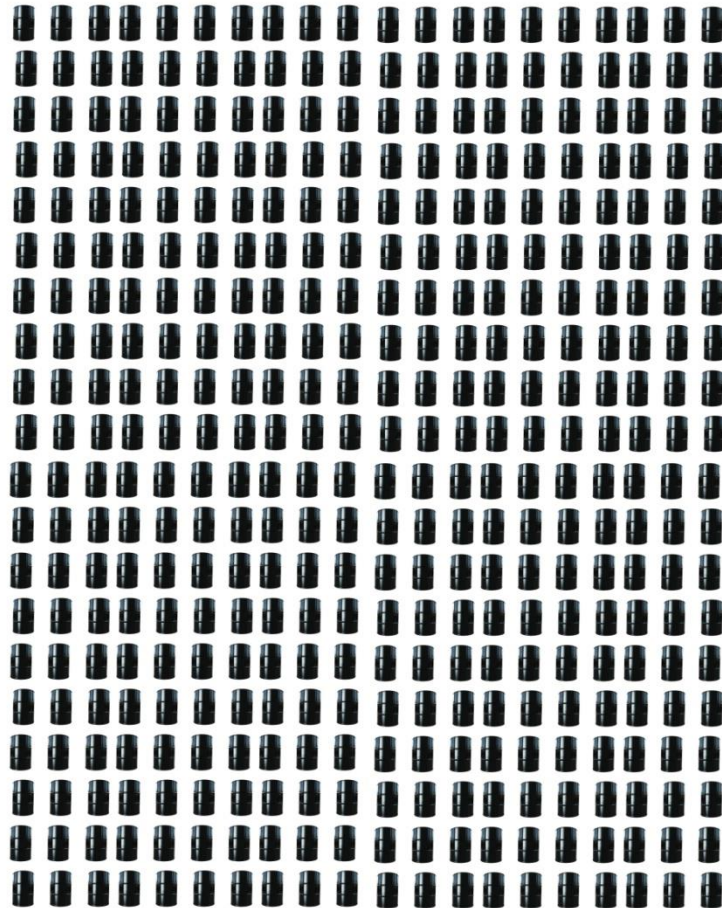
1950

7 millions tonnes/year



2000

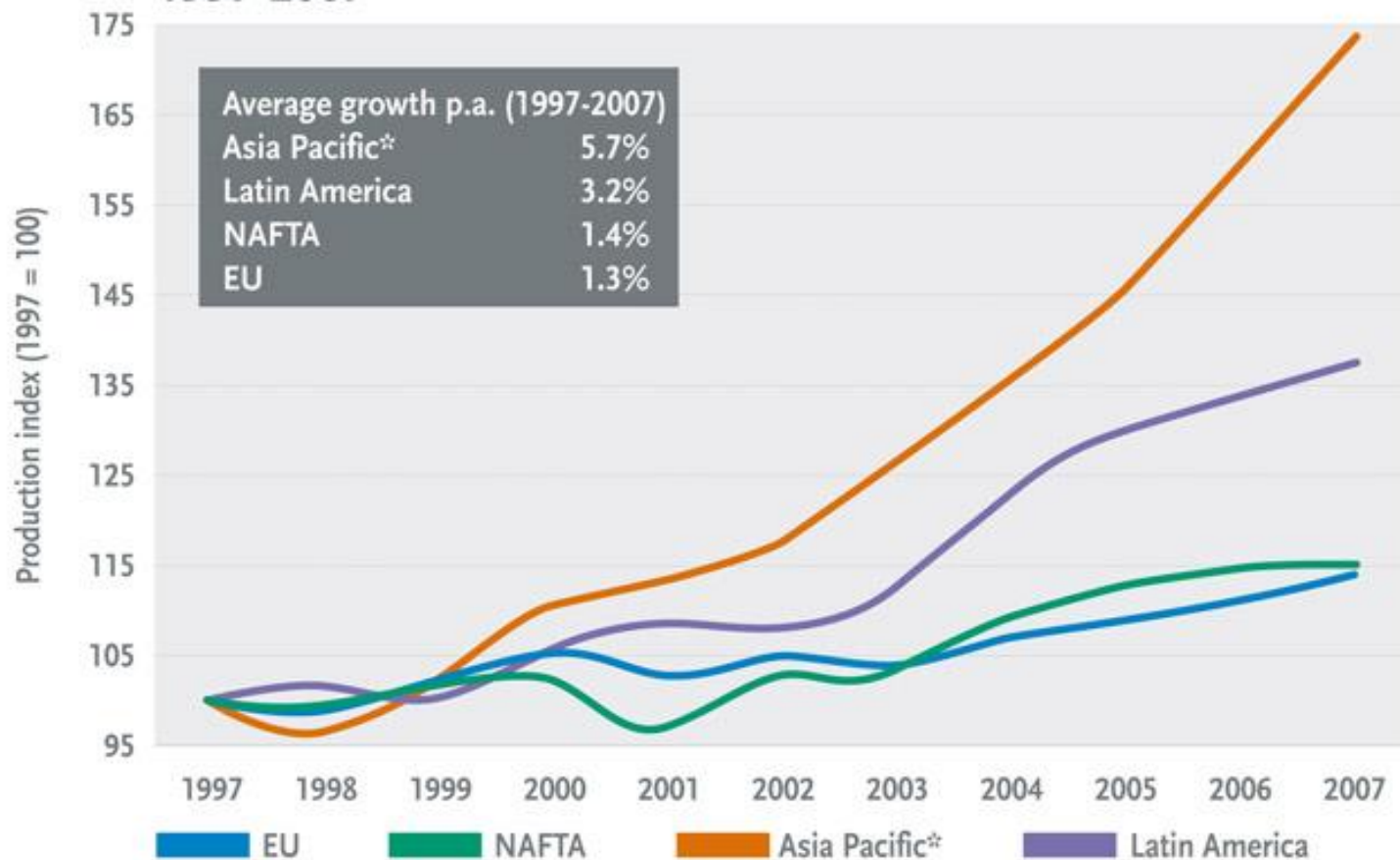
400 millions
tonnes/year



Source: European Commission, 2001.

Chart 3.5: International comparison of production growth of the chemicals industry

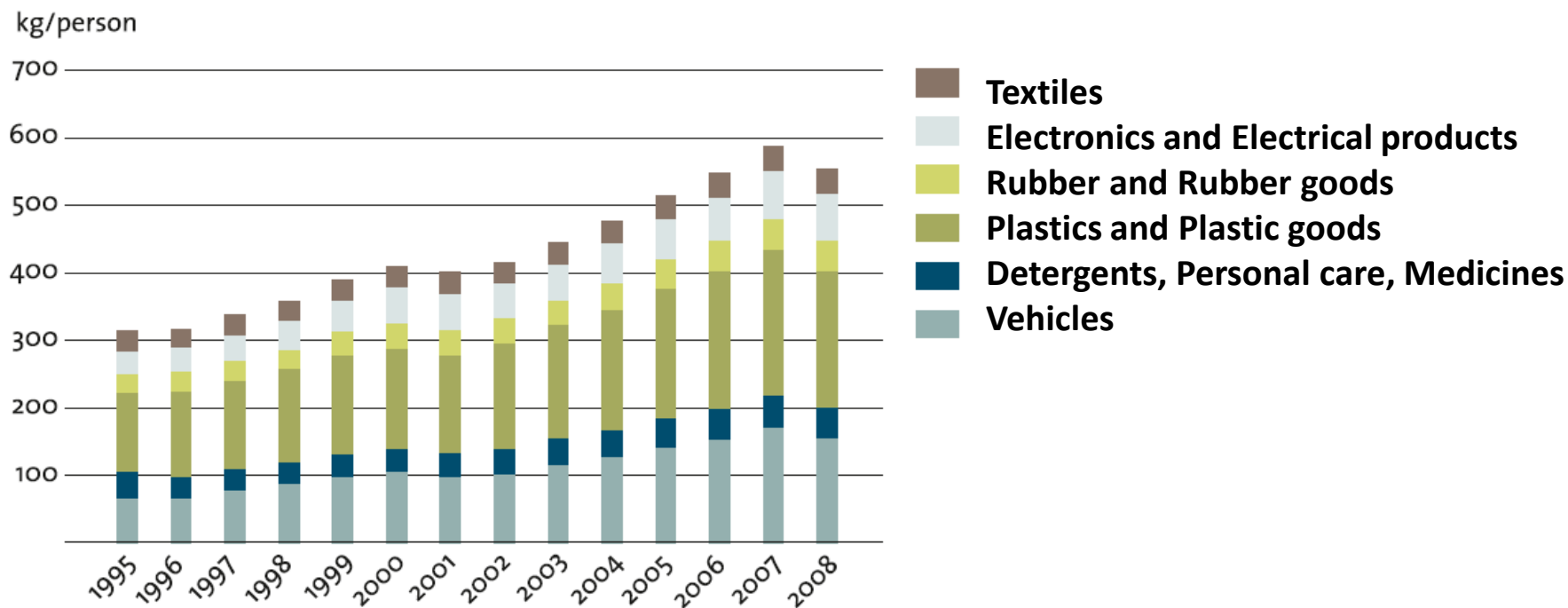
1997-2007



Source: Cefic Chemdata International

*Asia Pacific includes Japan, China, India, Korea, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Taiwan, Thailand, Pakistan, Bangladesh and Australia

International trade increase

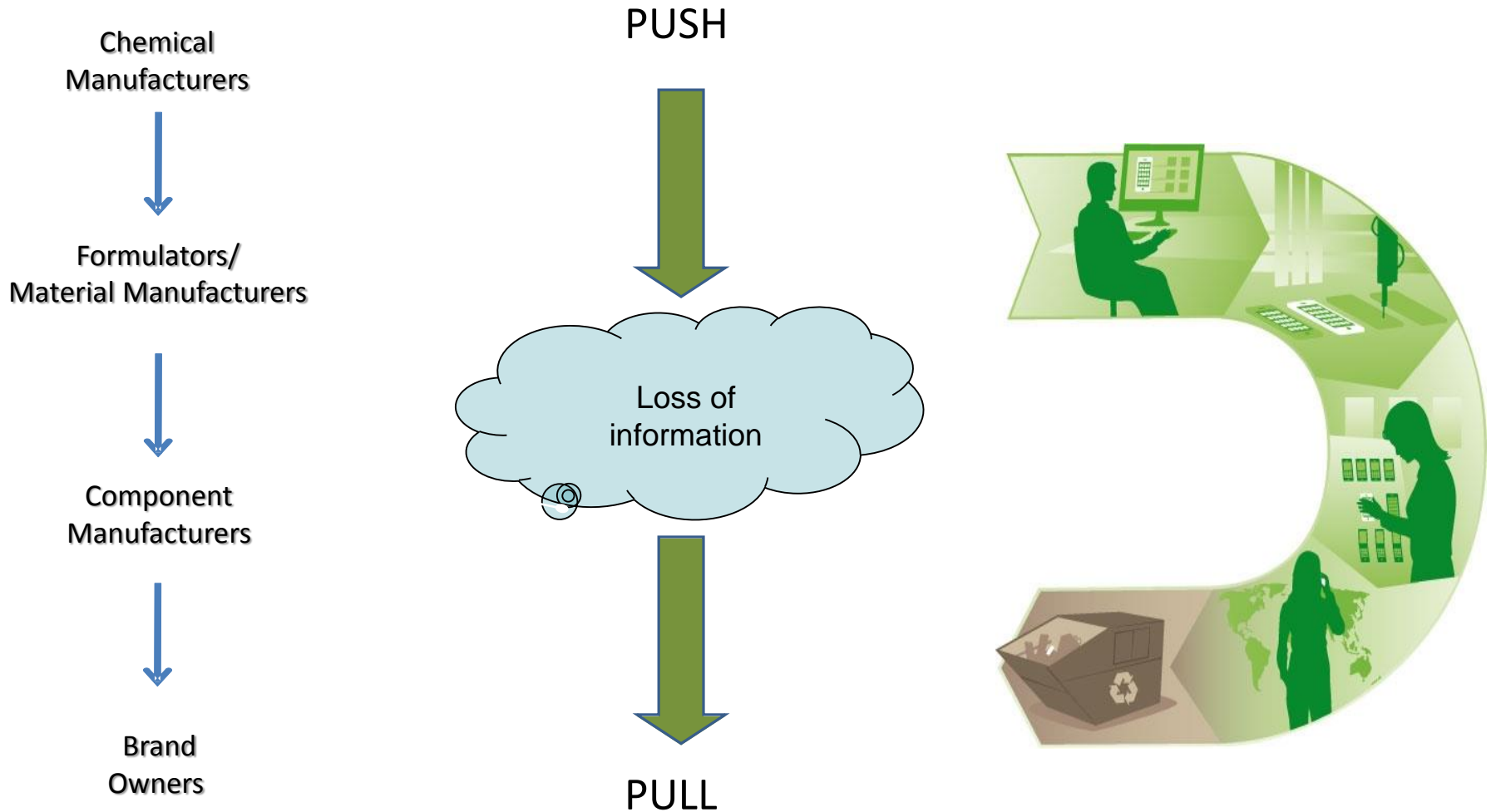


KÄLLA: STATISTISKA CENTRALBYRÅN, UTRIKESHANDEL MED VAROR

Non toxic and resource efficient
product life cycles needed



Current situation – gaps in information exchange



Toxic substances in electronics



Copyright: Basel Action Network, 2006

- Flame retardants, metals, plastics
- Poor recycling methods especially a problem in developing countries
- Risk of exposure during the entire life-cycle

Hazardous substances – challenges and problems



- Consumption of chemicals and products increases
- Lack of knowledge
- Hazardous substances in products a growing problem
- Children and young people particularly vulnerable
- Life-cycles are neither non-toxic or resource-efficient
- Today's efforts insufficient - action needed

Now, lets focus on solutions

