



**GUILD  
OF CLEANERS  
& LAUNDERERS**

For A Better  
Qualification  
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of Cleaners and  
Launderers

# Guild of Cleaners and Launderers



**N o v e m b e r 2 0 1 4 E - B u l l e t i n**

## The Future of Dry Cleaning Solvent Perchloroethylene

The European Chemical Agency (ECHA) on behalf of the European Community Union published an evaluation report in Brussels in October for the popular dry-cleaning solvent perchloroethylene, and it is one of the few substances that came out of the CoRAP (Community Rolling Action Plan) with a 'no further information request'.

The Agency's Evaluation Report for Perchloroethylene concludes that "no regulatory action (is) needed at EU level based on this evaluation". The European Chlorinated Solvents Association (ECSA) states 'This has the following important consequences:

\*There is no revision needed of the current harmonised classification based on this evaluation.

\*There is no need for identification of perchloroethylene as SVCH (Substance of Very High Concern) based on this evaluation.

\*There is no need for restrictions for perchloroethylene based on this evaluation.

\*There is no need for other community-wide regulatory risk management based on this evaluation.

They went on to say ' Perchloroethylene is the solvent of choice for textile dry-cleaning and industrial metal degreasing applications and they have supported the safe and sustainable use of PER'. Sales of chlorinated solvents in 2013 in Europe were 139,000 tonnes.

Barry Eaton of Safechem-Europe, Europe's biggest supplier of PER, is to address the Guild's Wetherby Seminar on the 16th of November on this subject.

Places are still available to those wishing to attend.

**Visit The Guild's  
Web site at  
[www.gcl.org.uk](http://www.gcl.org.uk)**

**Still Places Available  
Professional Clothes Care  
Half Day Seminar  
Sunday 16th of November  
At the Mercure Hotel,  
Wetherby, just off the A1M  
Six Speakers  
Free to members  
Only £10 to non members**



Guild Secretariat seen here welcoming guests to the Guild's Scottish Conference. Edith Paterson, who looks after the finances, and Debbie Paterson, who is our daily contact at the office.

Guild Membership Renewal? Your Membership Subscription for the year 2014/2015 is now overdue for renewal. You can pay on line by visiting the Guild Website at [www.gcl.org.uk](http://www.gcl.org.uk), or alternatively, Telephone 01698 322669 . Many thanks to those who paid on time because this saves money and time in having to check and chase late payers. Contact [enquiries@gcl.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@gcl.org.uk)

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### Guild's Shop Front Competition

There is still time to send in your photograph for the best looking shop front. The best will be declared at the Guild Nottingham Conference in February 2015.

Seen left are two photographs of a newly opened shop under the Jeeves franchise in Chengdu in China. Bottom photo of the two is Brian Pearce FGCL, seen with two of the Jeeves staff, and he is in China helping to train the staff and to assist with the opening.

These two pictures do show off the splendid appearance of the new premises but the Guild competition is for the outside as seen by the public.

If you have a photograph that you think will be a good example of a cleaner that customer's will find appealing and could be worthy of being the winner please send them in and have them entered into the competition.

Remember, the photograph does need to be your shop but it must show off our business in a good light and provide an example of the best appearance.

There will be a prize for the winning entrant.

**Curtains in Cleaning** In both the Technical Bulletin and the Amber Alert for this month we feature curtain care and the problems faced. Curtain fabric is unavoidably stretched during the weaving process as tension is necessary on the warp yarns, which run from the top to the bottom of the fabric that is why shrinkage almost always occurs in the length on finished curtains. The British Standard for curtains BS ISO 5867 allows for up to 3% relaxation on curtain fabrics, to compensate for this, manufacturers will allow for extra material in the hem to compensate. As we know this extra material is very often of no practical use by the time the customer wants the curtains cleaned as there is often a wear line on the hem of full length curtains which would show visibly if the curtains were lengthened by letting the hems down. Some manufacturers will pre-shrink their fabric before it is sent to be made up into curtain material, but the majority of curtain fabric is not pre-shrunk, and many cleaners find retailers rarely bring the risk of shrinkage to their customer's attention. Sunlight we also know has a well-known bleaching effect on home furnishings. The bleaching effect of the sun degenerates cellulose and protein at a molecular level so it is very effective damaging both cotton, linen and silk. The areas to look out for are on the linings and the edges of the curtain, a curtain hanging on a South facing window will be affected more than the others so every curtain will need to be checked not just one. Checking the curtain lining may show the fading in different colour patches top to bottom, or the curtain may have been weakened where the edges are exposed. If there is fading or colour change then there is damage, test the area by placing the fabric between the finger and thumb of both hands, and very gently pull away. If the fibres separate quite easily then they will be damaged by the mechanical action of the machine.

It then falls to the dry cleaner to advise their customer of this potential risk to avoid a disappointed customer and a possible expensive claim.



Pictured left are candidates on the Guild's Laundry Technology Training Course held in October. Seen here at the time of receiving each a cheque presented by Stuart Boyd FGCL, (seen right) Renter Warden, from the Worshipful Company of Launderers, towards 10% of the costs of the course. Second left is Roger Cawood FGCL, one of the course trainers.