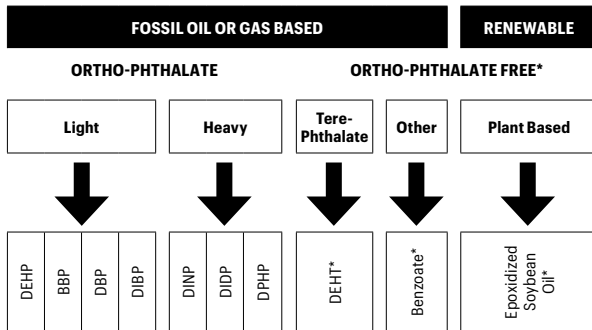


Plasticizers

What is a plasticizer?

A plasticizer is a softener. It changes poly-vinyl chloride (PVC) from being rigid like PVC pipe to being flexible like a vinyl shower curtain.

FIGURE 1: TYPES OF PLASTICIZERS



* Plasticizers used by Armstrong Flooring (with the exception of post-consumer recycled content)

What type of plasticizer does Armstrong Flooring use in their products?

Armstrong uses a variety of ortho-phthalate free plasticizers including benzoates, epoxidized soybean oil (ESO) and di (2-ethylhexyl) terephthalate (DEHT)

What is a phthalate?

A phthalate is generic term that refers to a class of chemicals known as ortho-phthalates. Ortho-phthalates are derived from phthalic acid and are used to soften rigid vinyl.

Is a terephthalate an ortho-phthalate?

No. A terephthalate is not an ortho-phthalate as it is not derived from phthalic acid and behaves differently in laboratory toxicological studies.

What type of plasticizers are disallowed or limited by the Living Building Challenge’s Red List and the Well® Building Standard?

The LBC Red List and the Well Building Standard only disallows or limits certain ortho-phthalates. Ortho-phthalate free plasticizers used by Armstrong Flooring are acceptable by both standards.

